



Viet Nam

National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2013-2015)

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Strategic goals

Strategic Goal Area 1

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

Natural disaster prevention and control contents must be integrated into national and local socio-economic development master plans and plans and sectoral development master plans and plans. (Disaster Prevention and control Law)

National and local socio-economic development or sector level development master plans and plans must have natural disaster prevention and control contents tailored to the regions disaster profile to ensure sustainable development. A provincial-level natural disaster prevention and control plans must identify methods of integrating natural disaster prevention and control contents into socio-economic development master plans and plans. Ministerial-level natural disaster prevention and control plans must identify methods to integrate natural disaster prevention and control contents into sectoral development master plans and plans.

Based on the results of assessment and zoning of natural disaster risks, contents to-be integrated should:

- a) Identify measures to prevent and mitigate the impacts of natural disasters on the socio-economic development process;
- b) Identify and implement measures to mitigate adverse impacts on the environment and prevent the increase of natural disaster threats;
- c) Identify measures to build infrastructure systems, which concurrently serve natural disaster prevention and control
- d) Identify resources for implementing measures of integrating natural disaster prevention and control contents

Implementing the content of integration in the national strategy on climate change (12/2011): Climate change should also be integrated into specific socio-economic master plans as well as in the development or improvement of standards, technical regulations and building design, infrastructure-based scenarios of climate change. By 2030, Viet Nam should have sustainable and stable economic zones that are safe and resistant to climate change

Strategic Goal Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

‘Government agencies, social organizations, economic organizations, armed forces, citizens and foreign organizations and individuals living in the territory of Viet Nam are duty-bound to disaster prevention, response and mitigation’.

The Law on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (2013) sets forth provisions to strengthen the institutional and organizational structures of the disaster related agencies. It aims to regulate responsibilities, coordination and supporting mechanisms of the disaster related agencies from central to local level as well as outlining the international cooperation principles in DRR. This is the first time the definition of disaster and 19 identified types of disasters are officially legitimized and a full time disaster agency is regulated for the establishment.

In addition, the government of Vietnam issued a Decree 66/2014/ND-CP to guide the implementation of the DRM law, Decision 46/2014/QDD-TTg to regulate the forecast, warning and information transmission of disasters, Decision 44/2014/QDD-TTg to set forth detail regulations of disaster risk level for 19 types of disasters within the DRM law and additional other disasters out of the law.

CBDRM and associated capacity building also have been given legal force through a specific decision. An approved set of Training Materials on DRR and CCA by the Government and have been used to undertake a training program to reach all 63 provinces.

In 2014, MARD approved two materials of CBDRM and CBRA for commune level. In the next coming years, the aim is to focus on strengthening the implementation of CBDRM activities at communities with priority for the vulnerable areas. Over the next coming years, all villages and communes in areas highly prone to disasters are to have disaster prevention plans, information and communication systems, core forces specialized in disaster mitigation, and a contingent of volunteers to guide and assist people in disaster prevention, combat and mitigation.

Strategic Goal Area 3

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

‘Disaster recovery should be combined with reconstruction and upgrading to ensure sustainable development of each area and sector’ (National Strategy 2020)

All 63 provinces have developed action plans to implement the National DRM Strategy as well as Provincial Committees for Climate Change. Most ministries and sectors represented in the CCFSC have developed action plans for the mainstreaming of DRR in their sectors.

In 2011 Viet Nam developed and disseminated Guidelines on Emergency Response and Early Recovery to improve disaster response and recovery operations and increase the focus on recovery from the onset of a disaster. The new Law on Disaster Prevention and Control will further develop recovery and reconstruction systems.

Since 2006, Viet Nam has been promoting the planned relocation of 150,000 households living in disaster-prone and extremely difficult areas, border and island areas, important and very important areas of protection forests, restricted zones of protected areas, and free migration areas. As of 2014, 71,413 households that have been relocated from the disaster prone areas causing by flash flood and landslide under the programs of 193 and 1776.

At national level zoning of earthquake vulnerable areas has been completed by Geophysical Institute. Technical requirements for the construction of earthquake-proof buildings have also been issued by MoC but further studies need to be conducted to be suitable for the Vietnamese context.

Viet Nam is also looking at disaster risk financing options to mobilize adequate financial resources for rapid recovery and reconstruction and ensure sustainable socio-economic development in response to climate change and the increased occurrence and severity of disasters. Further investment of resources however is required to ensure that disaster affected communities are 'built back better' and that a structured and systematic approach to post-disaster recovery, that adheres to and enforces international standards and regulations, is implemented within different disaster zones.

At Decision No. 48/2014/QĐ-TTg dated 28th August, 2014, Vietnam Government approved program on supporting poor people to build houses for flood prevention in 14 provinces of Central of Vietnam with more than 40.000 households. The program will be implemented in period of 2014 to 2016.

Priority for Action 1

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

Core indicator 1

National policy and legal framework for disaster risk reduction exists with decentralised responsibilities and capacities at all levels.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is disaster risk taken into account in public investment and planning decisions? Yes

National development plan	Yes
Sector strategies and plans	Yes
Climate change policy and strategy	Yes
Poverty reduction strategy papers	No
CCA/ UNDAF (Common Country Assessment/ UN Development Assistance Framework)	Yes
Civil defence policy, strategy and contingency planning	Yes

Have legislative and/or regulatory provisions been made for managing disaster risk?
Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In recent years, a lot of important legal documents, strategies, and plans addressing DRR and climate change adaptation (CCA) have been promulgated, including:

- The National Strategy for Natural Disaster Prevention, Response and Mitigation to 2020 (2007) and accompanying Action Plan National Strategy for Natural Disaster Prevention, Response and Mitigation to 2020
- The National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change (2007) [NTP-RCC]
- Decision 1002/2009/QĐ-TTg on Approving the Plan for Community awareness raising and Community-based Disaster Risk Management (2009)
- The National Strategy on Climate Change (2011)
- Law on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (2013)
- Decision 46/2014/QĐ-TTg to regulate the forecast, warning and information transmission of disasters
- Decision 44/2014/QĐ-TTg to regulate the level of disaster risk
- Other legal documents aimed at strengthening the organization and functions of the CCFSC, the VINASARCOM and its branches at ministries and localities (Decree 66/2014/ND-CP; Decision 76/2009/QĐ-TTg) and the mobilization, receiving, delivery, and management of relief aid (Decree 64/2008/ND-CP, Decree 67/2007/ND-CP (replaced by Decree 13/2010/ND-CP) and Decision 142/2009/QĐ-TTg, Decree 94/2014)

Among these legal documents, the Disaster Prevention and Control Law, the National Strategy for Natural Disaster Prevention, Response and Mitigation to 2020 and the NTP-RCC and the National Strategy Climate Change can be considered the most important in exemplifying the shift in viewpoint to emphasize disaster prevention and control in the context of climate change. They outline in detail issues related to disaster risk management and promote the integration of natural disaster prevention and control contents into plans, including social economic development master plan at all levels as well as sectoral development master plans.

Efforts are now underway to implement these approved legal documents mentioned above. All 63 provinces have developed action plans to implement the National DRM Strategy as well as Provincial Committees for Climate Change. Most ministries and sectors represented in the CCFSC have developed action plans for the mainstreaming of DRR in their sectors. DRM action plans are already being implemented in many the provinces and sectors (e.g. dyke construction, relocation, embankments, training, awareness-raising, risk mapping, etc.).

Gender mainstreaming into DRR has been a key element of this approach to promote women's roles before, during and after the disasters occur. In 2013, the CCFSC also accepted the Vietnam Women's Union as an official member through the Decision 216/QĐ-PCLBTW.

Over the past years, many DRM activities in action plans have been implemented by provinces and some ministries including the construction and reinforcement of the sea dyke system according to the new standards; the upgrading of embankments and the relocation of populations who live in areas frequently affected by natural disasters; training, awareness-raising, risk mapping, etc. A lot of provinces and ministries are developing action plans for CCA according to the requirement of National strategy on climate change. All provinces have developed an action plans

for the implementation of CBDRM program.

Some provinces have also begun to integrate DRR into provincial socio-economic development plans (SEDPs) for 2011-2015 as well as in sectoral 5-year Development Plans. The Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Sector Development Strategies (until 2020) have integrated the content of disaster prevention and control or the Ministry of Education and Trainings have integrated the content of disaster prevention and control into training program period of 2011-2015.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Effective and consistent integration of DRR into the national and provincial SEDPs that cover all sectors and localities is a complicated and time-consuming task. At present, Vietnam is implementing the action plan in the period of 2011-2015 and developing longer-term vision at national, ministerial and local level. However, until now the guideline for mainstreaming and monitoring and evaluation indicators have not been promulgated. A review of a number of draft plans showed that integration in some cases simply meant listing out some projects to be implemented, such as dyke strengthening, risk map development and consolidation of the DRM organization. Each sector and province develops plans for their own entity, sometimes without much consultation and coordination with others. For example, the provincial Department of Planning and Investment (DPI) consolidates all plans into one document for the whole province. MoLISA just participated to support the mainstreaming of people with disability in DRM. Therefore, the mainstreaming issue has not been implemented synchronously and widely in all provinces. There are also not legal foundations to regulate the participation of people with disability in decision making process at all level.

- Disaster risk reduction measures are still focused on agriculture and flood and storm control. The role to deal with climate change is assigned to MoNRE while DRR and CCA is an interrelated issue that needs a coherent approach.

- Vietnam has achieved remarkable progresses in development and promulgation of a number of related DRM legislations such as DRM Law 2013, Decree to guide the implementation of the DRM law 2013, Decision to regulate on level of disaster risk 2014, Decision to regulate on forecast, warning and information communication of disasters and Decree on a DRM Fund. However, in order to complete the legal framework for DRM law implementation, the Vietnam government has plan to develop some other legal documents. According to Decision 1392/QD-TTg dated on 8th August, 2013 and the Decision 1061/QD-TTg dated on 1st July, 2014, legal documents as follow will be developed: a Circular to guide on the mainstreaming of the content of Disaster prevention and control into sector and socio-economic planning and plans and a Circular guide on statistics and assessment of damages caused by disaster. Besides, governmental agencies from Central to Local level are reviewing a The National Strategy for Natural Disaster Prevention, Response and Mitigation to 2020 in the context of climate change and seawater rising, developing

disaster prevention and control plans at all levels, conducting assessments to classify disaster risk areas and establish disaster warning maps.

- Decision No.58/2014/QĐ-TTg of Prime Minister, the Department of Disaster Prevention and Control under Directorate of Water resource has been established. Efforts to strengthen DRM national and sub-national committees to replace the existing CCFSC and PCFSC are also being taken to bring these structures in line with the law.

- Limited resources to implement plans and to enforce legislation on DRR remain the biggest challenge to be overcome in the future.

Core indicator 2

Dedicated and adequate resources are available to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

What is the ratio of the budget allocation to risk reduction versus disaster relief and reconstruction?

	Risk reduction / prevention (%)	Relief and reconstruction (%)
National budget	2.5% of annual budget	

Decentralised / sub-national budget

USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)	
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Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's

ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Viet Nam has recognized the importance of DRR by issue several important legislative documents to allocate sufficient human and financial resources for implementing DRR, both structural and non-structural measures, from central to community level. With the approval of the National Strategy on DRM , the NTP on CCA, and Decision 1002 on the CBDRM, a significant amount of funding is budgeted to implement these priorities and activities.

There are three main funding sources identified: the state (central and local), international, and civil society/individual. For example, the CBDRM Implementing Plan specifies that a budget about 988,7 billion VND (50 million USD) is required to implement the plan from now to 2020; of which state budget will cover 55%, people's contribution will cover 5% and ODA from foreign governments and international organizations will cover 40%.

The National Strategy on DRM and the NTP on CCA also identify key projects and outline funding needs. Sectors and ministries are required to identify source and allocate funds towards these DRR measures. The MoF and MPI are assigned to allocate and seek for adequate financial resources to implement these plans. The consultation findings show that the MPI and DPs have often attempted to prioritize DRR needs in the SEDP. The MoF and DoFs set aside annual contingency funding from 2-5% of national and provincial budgets for disaster response and recovery. Whilst contingency funds currently seem adequate for emergency response, significant funding gaps remain for recovery and reconstruction.

Most staff working in DRM in Viet Nam currently work only part of their time on this issue. Capacity development is still required on technical aspects, as well as on skills such as project management, planning, financial planning and management .

There is a serious lack of material resources for DRR especially disaster risk identification (mapping), training (research institute), education (materials and teaching aids), recovery and reconstruction. Significant efforts have been made by the government to modernize search and rescue equipment, the communication tools, and weather-forecasting and early warning systems as well as hydro-methodology observation station, observation station on earthquake, tsunami warning.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The monitoring system to track investment in DRR from the state budget, ODA and other sources has not been finalized. Currently, sectors and localities have separate data collection systems which are not always consistent.

Although new policies make provisions for funding allocations for DRR, due to budget constraints these funds are not always forthcoming, and many planned projects have not been implemented, especially in poor areas.

The DRR community initiatives should be expanded and integrated through the implementation of CBDRM program

The contribution of the private sector and individuals is mostly focused on disaster relief. Large numbers of people make in-kind or voluntary contributions to emergency response efforts at local levels. Financial contributions to relief and short-term response are also increasing. More effort is required however, to raise awareness and create favorable conditions for the private sector to participate in other aspects of DRR (e.g. tax incentives). Sectors, localities, and some non-governmental promoting Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in DRM.

Core indicator 3

Community Participation and decentralisation is ensured through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do local governments have legal responsibility and regular / systematic budget allocations for DRR? Yes

Legislation (Is there a specific legislation for local governments with a mandate for DRR?)	Yes
Regular budget allocations for DRR to local government	Yes
Estimated % of local budget allocation assigned to DRR	

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's

ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The objectives of decentralization and responsibilities of ministries and sectors, and participation of community are clearly set out in legislative documents, especially Ordinance 34/2007/PL-UBTVQH11 on Grassroots Democracy, which puts communities and people at the center of all decision-making processes relating to their lives.

The DRM Law 2013, Decree 66/2014, the DRM National Strategy, the NTP-RCC and the 1002 CBDRM Decision, each emphasizes the importance of local authority and community participation in the DRR and CCA. One long maintained principle applied and promoted in flood and storm control is the motto: “Four-on-the-spot” which refers to command on the spot, manpower on the spot, means and supplies on the spot and logistics on the spot. This motto also highlights the role of individual and community participation in flood and storm control especially in response and early recovery. The motto is now legitimized at point 2, article 4 of the DRM Law 2013. The participation of the armed forces, the police, Red Cross volunteers, youth, members of other mass organizations have been important in mobilizing human resources for DRR in the past years. Currently, the DRM law regulates details of rights and responsibilities of individuals, households, governmental agencies, civil society organizations and international organizations working in Vietnam.

The current flood and storm control structure also decentralizes management functions to the provincial and sectoral levels. These include: annual disaster planning, contingency planning, budgeting, capacity building and awareness-raising. According to the State Budget Law, the People’s Council at provincial level has the authority to approve budgets and allocate budgets according to a prioritization of needs, including operational budgets for DRM including for the CFSC’s allowances, basic equipment, utilities, admin costs, etc. However, although responsibilities are decentralized, local authorities generally have insufficient financial resources for the training of volunteers, local staff, purchasing equipment, etc. to carry out their duties effectively. Since funding is not recurrent such items are only supported on an ad hoc basis.

There are increasing efforts to involve communities in preparedness, adaptation and mitigation activities especially through ODA-funded/NGO projects. Significantly, the Decision on CBDRM emphasizes the involvement of people and communities in DRR; the Decision stipulates that subsequent action planning at provincial levels for rolling out CBDRM in 6,000 disaster-prone communes - out of total 11,112 communes in the whole country will be carried out.

A CBDRM Technical Working Group has been established with contributions from specialists in the UN agencies, Red Cross, INGOs and donor organizations to support the DMC (under MARD, and the focal point responsible for the implementation of the CBDRM programme) to develop the main ‘building blocks’ required for programme implementation, including CBDRM implementation guidelines, CBDRM training material, M&E guidelines, etc.

It is recognized that there are still capacity/skills gaps, particularly in the use of participatory approaches, especially at the sub-national levels in the following areas:

- Rapid damage and needs assessments and vulnerability and risk assessments with consideration of gender;
- Skill for participation mobilization (especially, the vulnerable groups such as people

with disability);

- Emergency responses - that better ensure child protection and continuation of education in emergencies;
- Responses that ensure comprehensive/holistic responses to needs (livelihoods);
- Project planning - that uses participatory approaches;
- Rehabilitation plans;
- Monitoring capacity.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Despite the positive policy reform efforts on decentralizing and mobilizing community and individual participation in DRR, genuine participation at grassroots level in planning processes is still limited. Other weaknesses include: the limited participation of vulnerable groups (especially people with disability); time constraints; human resource limitations; and the need to effectively roll-out tools developed. The lack of operational budgets for local authorities to enable more participatory processes to be supported and more importantly, to enable the implementation of action plans is also an issue.

The CBDRM program is being implemented at all levels. All provinces have developed action plan implementing this decision, but the content and quality of them is limited due to lack of specific guidelines.

Core indicator 4

A national multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction is functioning.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are civil society organizations, national finance and planning institutions, key economic and development sector organizations represented in the national platform? Yes

civil society members (specify absolute number)

**national finance and planning institutions
(specify absolute number)**

**sectoral organisations (specify absolute
number)**

private sector (specify absolute number)

**science and academic institutions (specify
absolute number)**

**women's organisations participating in
national platform (specify absolute number)**

other (please specify)

Where is the coordinating lead institution for disaster risk reduction located?

In the Prime Minister's/President's Office No

In a central planning and/or coordinating unit No

In a civil protection department No

In an environmental planning ministry No

In the Ministry of Finance No

Other (Please specify) Ministry of
Agriculture and
Rural Development

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator
(not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In 2013, MARD in cooperation with MONRE organized a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation. Participants included the Deputy Prime Minister, the Ministers of MONRE and MARD and representatives from ministries, sectors and provinces, foreign affair agencies, donors such as WB, UNDP, JICA, AusAID, civil societies and NGOs. The Platform is a place to share and discuss the DRR and CCA policy implementation, climate change response models in agricultural sector, lessons learned and good practices in DRR at local level, needs for capacity building in DRR for business sectors and people in urban areas.

Priorities highlighted during the National Platform including strengthening institutional capacity and collaboration mechanisms amongst ministries and sectors; developing financial allocation mechanism to meet the needs and effectiveness of DRM and enhancing and promoting the effectiveness of CBDRM to raise awareness to communities in responding to disasters. The importance of establishing early warning systems for disaster and climate change in highly prone areas; developing an information sharing network between ministries, sectors, localities and NGOs to support the policy formulation process, and enhancing coordination of activities and promoting the participation of multi-stakeholders was also noted. Strengthening public-private partnership in DRR and CCA, improving scientific research and application of new modern technologies in DRM; and mobilizing support, closely cooperation and experience sharing from international organizations, donors and NGOs in DRR and CCA were also highlighted as priority areas.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Civil society is still under its early stage of development. Currently, there is need for legislation to regulate the operation of civil society organizations. There continues to be some debate as to whether mass organizations represent part of Viet Nam's 'civil society' as they have a recognized policy feedback role and they do play a significant role to support the GoV in reaching out to the lower administrative levels. However, such organizations are members of the Fatherland Front and therefore are directly funded by the state.

Priority for Action 2

Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

Core indicator 1

National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national multi-hazard risk assessment with a common methodology available to inform planning and development decisions? Yes

Multi-hazard risk assessment	Yes
% of schools and hospitals assessed	
schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)	
Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments	No
Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments	No
Risk assessment held by a central repository (lead institution)	No
Common format for risk assessment	Yes
Risk assessment format customised by user	Yes
Is future/probable risk assessed?	No

Please list the sectors that have already used disaster risk assessment as a precondition for sectoral development planning and programming.

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

For specific hazards, some risk assessments have been carried out at the national level for examples: floods and drought (MoNRE, MARD); earthquakes and tsunamis (Geophysical Institute); flash floods (MARD, MoNRE), and storms and typhoons (National Centre for Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting). Work on storm surge mapping is also underway.

MARD is implementing and speeding up the application of geospatial information technology in disaster prevention and control via cooperation with the specialized agencies in Vietnam, international organizations such as UNSPIDER, UNDP, UNESCAP, JAXA, Sentimental Asia, International Charter to support the technology transfer, providing remote sensing images when a disaster occurs, training and human resources and develop framework for the application of space technology in disaster prevention and control in Vietnam and the region. For example, the VN REDSat 1 satellite of Viet Nam provided images of the flood which occurred in An Do and Pakistan on 18th September 2014. UNESCAP sent a letter showing their high appreciation on the support efficiently of Viet Nam academy of Science and technology

Work is underway to increase forecasting capacity and warning systems for incoming tropical storms/typhoons to 72 hours before an event. Since 2010, there has been significantly investment in developing the early warning systems (EWS), particularly for typhoons, funded from Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) and GoV's co-financing. Decision No. 986/2010/QD-TTg was passed approving the plan for modernizing the technology of forecasting and network of gauging stations. Flood forecasting capacity has improved due to the installation of a greater number of hydrological monitoring stations. However, flash-flood forecasting needs further investment to increase technical capacity and essential equipment, particularly in remote and mountainous areas. There has been some progress on drought forecasting; however, work of droughts prevention and control is so complex due to related to water resource which managed by a lot of different provinces and stakeholders, and sometime there are competing demands (e.g. hydropower and irrigation needs).

An important development with regards to dam safety and reservoir management is the agreement between Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT) to regulate the discharge of major reservoirs in the northern provinces and all reservoirs in the central provinces.

A number of maps at 1:25,000-scale have been developed by national agencies. Until 2012, there were no multi-hazard maps or risk assessment data available at the national level. However, in 2011/12, UNDP supported MARD with implementing a national wide risk assessment to identify 6,000 vulnerable communes for the national programme on CBDRM.

Subsequent research led to the development of a multi-hazard risk assessment

including different determinants of vulnerability in the community, e.g. storm shocks, rainfall flood and drought as well as other hazards; demographic indicators, assets and living standards indicators. The risk assessment has resulted in various sets of maps, downscaled to the commune level, for hazard potential, coping capacity and hazard exposure and an integrated risk index has now been developed for all 11,112 communes/wards in the country. Maps showing the locations of ranked communes into low, medium and high risk levels (see Section 5: Priority For Action 3, Core Indicator 3 for further details) have been finalized and it is hoped that the results will be used for future prioritization of GoV planning, budget allocation and donor contributions into the CBDRM program. These maps will be available at commune, district, province and national level for future utilization in CBDRM activities.

There is also a lack of a central database to store hazard maps and data; currently they are stored at different places with different ministries or government agencies. The Government is exploring whether integrated information management platforms, like VinAware can be useful in this regard.

Currently, risk assessments have been conducted by the two main sectors (agriculture and environment); while other sectors have not yet conducted a thorough risk assessment (health, education, construction, etc.). Several climate change modelling scenarios have been developed at national and regional/provincial levels by the Institute of Hydro-Meteorology in MoNRE. MoNRE also implemented the program on "Investigation, surveying, zoning and warning flashflood in mountainous area of Vietnam. In early 2012, MoNRE also completed downscaled climate change and sea level rise scenarios, which could be used in risk assessment processes at different levels. Hazard maps have been developed for provinces in the Mekong Delta. 07 provinces in central region developed Flood map. Flashflood map, landslide map and the super storm surge map is developing.

Some provinces have developed hazard maps and have risk assessment data but are usually reliant on specific projects. Local level risk assessments are not comprehensive and are not carried out systematically. In An Giang province for example, the Department of Natural Resource and Environment (DoNRE) and DARD have developed some risk maps for flood and landslide hazards at the scale of 1:25,000. These maps serve as a tool for land-use planning, residential relocation, infrastructure building. However, the more detailed maps at district or commune level (as mentioned above) are now available for communities to validate and apply. In some communes, under some projects funded by INGOs or the Red Cross, VCA were conducted and hazard maps developed by the communes with people's participation; these maps should be digitalized and documented for local use. The need for frequent updates and use in DRR planning is still modest.

The National DRM Strategy, the NTP for RCC and the Decision on CBDRM prioritize the development of hazard maps at different levels, including conducting VCA at the commune level. In 2014, MARD approved official guidance materials on undertaking a commune level vulnerability assessment and on developing a community based disaster risk management plan in line with the national CBDRM program 1002. Materials were developed in partnership with key civil society organizations including the Viet Nam Red Cross and Women's Union. This will enable a more standardized and participatory approach to vulnerability and risk assessment at the commune level, and work to roll the process out in 30 high risk provinces is underway.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main constraint is that while information on hazard risk information is recorded by different sectors, it is not systematically centralized within a national database. In addition, each sector develops its own hazard maps so it creates a significant overlap.

Even though the national risk assessment was undertaken using statistical analysis from historical data of global and CCFSC data sources, there is still room for further improvement and regular updating if additional data is available, e.g. national run-off water data, forestry coverage, etc. both for strengthening the risk assessment estimations and modelling as well as validating the assessment results with practice. Limited funding and capacity significantly hinder the progress of conducting both national and local risk assessments based on available hazard data and vulnerability information; especially including risk assessments for main sectors.

It is also expensive to develop multi-hazard maps. Recently, the World Bank project, the NDRMP developed high quality flood modeling maps for 12 provinces and JICA supported Thua Thien Hue to develop a similar map; these have both required substantial technical and financial support.

The approval of commune level vulnerability and capacity tools for the national CBDRM programme is a major step forward. However, rolling this process out to at least 6000 in line with the national target will require significant capacity building and operational budget.

With the support of UNDP through the SCDM II project, DMC and co-implementing partners (Oxfam England, VNRC, VWU) do training on community based disaster assessment at commune level. At present, there are 40 communes belong to 20 provinces of project area have done this work.

In addition, technical capacity at the local levels is still weak for analysis and using hazard risk information for planning and decision making, and provinces or communes do not always have access to the most up-to-date scientific risk assessments covering their areas when making decisions.

Limited coordination among sectors and stakeholders to share, utilize and communicate local assessment results with each other also wastes resources and sometimes, agencies repeat assessment exercises in the same communes.

Core indicator 2

Systems are in place to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards and vulnerabilities

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor

substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are disaster losses and hazards systematically reported, monitored and analyzed?
Yes

Disaster loss databases exist and are regularly updated	Yes
Reports generated and used in planning by finance, planning and sectoral line ministries (from the disaster databases/ information systems)	No
Hazards are consistently monitored across localities and territorial boundaries	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In February 2012, the GoV issued Decision 31QD/PCLBTW, which provided approved DANA templates and reporting formats for GoV use at sub-national levels. Whilst these are an improvement on previous templates, several comprise a large number of indicators that historical records show has not been used consistently in the aftermath of a disaster by provincial authorities.

Disaster damage information is collected through the CFSC system at all administrative levels. Damage impact reports are generated during and after disasters and annually. The collected data is mostly utilized for planning emergency response and recovery activities. At the national level two damage and needs assessment systems are in place to collect, disseminate and archive data on hazards and damage caused by related disasters; one under the CCFSC and the other under the General Statistics Office – GSO (Ministry of Planning and Investment).

The CCFSC data is timely and up-to-date and immediately available after each disaster for Government and non-Government partners via the CCFSC website. The website, managed by the DDMFSC and the DMC, displays the information regularly during disaster events and archives damage data for the main disasters since 1989. The information is also stored on a recently developed Viet Nam Disaster Damage Database for analysis purpose . Records are kept by the CCFSC for a longer period but only as hardcopy.

Another parallel disaster information system is managed by the GSO. From commune to provincial level, trained GSO statisticians report similar disaster damage information and annually update this for the whole country. The GSO has kept statistics on disasters since 1996. However, it is not available on their website or the CCFSC's or published in the Yearbook. Data from the GSO is used by the Ministry of Finance for financial allocations as recovery support post disaster.

Although collecting similar information, the data of both systems is not always consistent. Also, while CCFSC focuses more on medium to major disasters, the GSO also collects information on small scale disasters. However, there is no information on hazard risks, vulnerability and capacity assessment data, and most of the data is not gender disaggregated and not differentiated by vulnerable groups.

The Viet Nam Red Cross also collects disaster information through its local chapters, which is shared with the IFRC and other partners for response planning. INGOs and international agencies also share information through the distribution of situation reports on the NGO Resource Centre website, DMWG mailing list and via the UN Disaster Risk Management Team.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Data on disaster impact is still very much focused on assessing damage and less on humanitarian needs. The data is also still not systematically gender disaggregated and other vulnerable groups, e.g. people with disabilities, children, and ethnic minority groups. In post-disaster situations, more detailed assessments on livelihoods and needs are carried out by INGOs or the Red Cross in areas targeted for the implementation of humanitarian assistance projects/programmes.

Over recent years, several initiatives have been undertaken to improve the damage and needs assessment (DANA) system in terms of revised templates, website applications and accompanying software. The initiatives were tested in a number of provinces but not systematically replicated in other provinces or for the entire country.

Under Decision 31, there is now an opportunity for widespread utilization by the sub-national level of consistent templates and reporting formats in the aftermath of a disaster. Ideally, these need to be provided in soft-copy to all provinces and allow GoV staff to add and amend data as it comes in ensuring real-time and timelier disaster damage data collection, collation and analysis.

More effort is needed to institutionalize the suggested improvements at all levels through training, guiding legislation, test-and-trial in an actual disaster situation, political buy-in, etc.

There is also a need to update and improve the CCFSC website to become more

responsive, stable, and modern and have a larger storage capacity for more comprehensive information on DRR, not only damage data but also information on risks, needs, vulnerabilities, multi-hazard information and inventories of relief and recovery support to disaster affected communities. It should incorporate existing disaster management information applications, such as DesInventar, VinAware, DRR Project Portal, etc.

There are also plans to enhance the Viet Nam Disaster Damage Database to include district and commune disaggregated data. Greater analysis of existing data and inclusion of new data on other hazards: drought, salt water intrusion and earthquakes to allow a multi-hazard assessment is also important. The historical disaster database managed by the CCFSC should also be linked with other existing databases on socio-economic indicators, managed by the GSO and ensure the open access of information to all stakeholders.

Core indicator 3

Early warning systems are in place for all major hazards, with outreach to communities.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do risk prone communities receive timely and understandable warnings of impending hazard events? Yes

Early warnings acted on effectively	Yes
Local level preparedness	No
Communication systems and protocols used and applied	Yes
Active involvement of media in early warning dissemination	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's

ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

A nationwide early warning system (EWS) exists from central to local levels. At the central level the CCFSC and VINASARCOM coordinate flood warning, response and recovery activities. While at the regional level two regional Flood and Storm Control Centres in Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City support the MARD Standing Office of the CCFS to coordinate directives and information flow between central and provincial levels. At the provincial level, the CFSC and VINASARCOM member agencies are represented under a single combined PCFSC and S&R (chaired by the PPC); this is repeated at district and commune levels.

Hazard monitoring and forecasting for flood and storms is provided by the National Center for Hydro-meteorological Forecasting (NCHMF), which passes information down through this system. The NCHMF transmits forecasts to stakeholder organizations on a routine basis, as well as during emergencies. NHMS regional and provincial centers also distribute warning information and provide more detailed forecast information, to NHMS NCHMF as well as PPCs, for the provinces they oversee.

When a flood/storm emergency is declared, usually at the central level by the CCFSC, an official telegram declaring an emergency triggers all subsequent actions. Generally, the flow of hazard warning information is top-down. Stakeholders at all levels of government are kept apprised of developing natural hazard conditions through receipt of periodic updates from NHMS/NCHMF in Hanoi and its regional centers. Based on these updates, decision makers develop and convey a series of recommended actions, in accordance with their roles and responsibilities.

The current EWS includes two channels:

1. TV/radio including Vietnam Television (VTV) and Vietnam Radio (VoV) are active and have recently increased frequency of news and coverage. These are effective channels to disseminate forecasting and early warning to the public audience. More recently, VTC14 has been inaugurated, which is specifically for disaster related information.
2. The CCFSC system exists from national (central) to commune level and aims to bring timely warning messages to the authorities and communities. However, the EWS does not always work effectively in providing warning messages to the whole communities, especially the remote areas of the community. Loudspeaker systems exist in most many communes yet basically cover the central administration zone only and in some cases messengers still can be mobilized to warn the people at the lowest level but are not trained to provide localized warning messages. These warning systems mainly focus on television, radio and loudspeakers, which are not always accessible by different vulnerable groups, e.g. those living with disabilities, or for children.

EWS systems function effectively for some specific hazards, such as slow onset river floods and typhoons. However, the capacity to produce early warning signals for rapid onset disasters (flash flood, earthquake and tsunamis) and forest fire is still limited. In the past, significant attention and investment was made on EWS, although these have focused mainly flood and storm hazards. Recently, some pilot projects have been implemented to monitor and warn of landslide and flash flood hazards in

some mountainous provinces and EWS installed, however, these were not too effective and did not function well. After the 2004 tsunami in South and Southeast Asia, more attention and investment has been placed on the monitoring and EWS for these hazards. The Government has also committed to equip 30 tsunami early warning stations by 2015, 8 of which have been completed to date.

National, offshore weather gauging stations (32 stations along the coastline operated by the Coastal Marine Communications Company) provide warning messages to ships operating in the sea. The GoV has a policy to subsidize the subscription fee for local fishers (VND 4 millions/boat) for those that have an ICOM.

The Ministry of Information and Communications (MoIC) has developed a Law on Radio Frequency for Fishers requiring that all fishing boats have an I-COM which the GoV will assist with the subscription. A MoIC Project from 2009-2015 is studying, piloting and implementing mobile stations for sea/coastal search and rescue nationwide. The MoIC have developed a map for search and rescue at sea for whole country. Meanwhile the Coastal Communications Company has built 32 stations along the coast. The MoIC project links up with these stations to provide affordable and effective warning systems for fishermen, e.g. of the 2,500 fishing boats in Ninh Thuan, 10% have I-COM up to 500km, the remainder fishermen near shore and communications can be effectively carried out using mobile phones, short wave radio, etc. and the province has built 3 coastal stations that communicate with 90% of boats.

The EWS have developed further due to improved cell phone and internet coverage. The communications system has developed rapidly and provides sufficient communication infrastructure for the timely transmission of warning signals to the most vulnerable groups such as fishermen, ethnic people living in remote mountainous areas and poor people with weak coping capacity.

The Decision 986/2010/QĐ-TTg aimed to modernize forecasting technology and strengthen the network of hydro-meteorological stations. Work is on-going to provide timely, concise information using digital technology for rainfall and floods, with considerable ODA support. SMS warning has been tested as a means to warn large numbers of people in some typhoon response operations.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The MoIC has invested significantly in telecommunication infrastructure to improve the systems' capacity to transmit weather forecasting and early warning messages to the public. All communes now have access to landlines and mobile phone coverage. Television and radio signal coverage now reaches most communes and even villages. The existing EWS systems for some hazards (typhoons, slow onset flood,

rain) are well established from central to commune level with sufficient coverage.

There is some progress made in terms of increasing the length of time for warnings and for accuracy of forecasting as well as the coverage. For example, in mountainous provinces, such as Kon Tum or Lao Cai, there are insufficient hydro-meteorological stations for forecasting rainfall and flood warnings: the whole province of Kon Tum has only 3 stations for monitoring river levels/precipitation and some rainfall gauging stations. In addition to limitations with monitoring stations, there are also capacity weaknesses in terms of risk knowledge and analyzing or processing precipitation data for storm development for accurate forecasting and relevant preparations.

Another challenge is the heavy focus on weather forecasting (typhoon and rainfall) but not for flash floods and landslides. Forest fires early warning is still limited with basic EWS and response systems.

Further challenges include reaching some remote communes, language issues for ethnic minorities, and ensuring that information provided is well targeted to the general public and is not too technical or full of jargon. Warning messages have not yet been able to reach all communities. Early warning messages on forest fire are limited with the simple response and early warning system. Some kinds of disasters such as landslide, flashflood do not yet have warning systems. The monitoring and management of catchment area of reservoirs also is still limited.

Core indicator 4

National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Does your country participate in regional or sub-regional actions to reduce disaster risk? Yes

Establishing and maintaining regional hazard monitoring	Yes
Regional or sub-regional risk assessment	Yes
Regional or sub-regional early warning	Yes

Establishing and implementing protocols for transboundary information sharing Yes

Establishing and resourcing regional and sub-regional strategies and frameworks Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

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Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Although the AADMER has been in place for a few years, more is required to take account of regional risks in national and local risk assessments. This is due to a lack of a comprehensive risk assessment system and mechanisms to enforce the process, including an overall holistic framework for addressing trans-boundary DRM issues.

There are also gaps in capacity, policies and legal frameworks, as well as resources to realize the agreement or to propose new agreements. There still is scope for greater cooperation in the region for joint planning, response, lesson sharing, capacity building, tools, technologies, etc.

Priority for Action 3

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

Core indicator 1

Relevant information on disasters is available and accessible at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems etc)

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national disaster information system publicly available? Yes

Information is proactively disseminated	Yes
Established mechanisms for access / dissemination (internet, public information broadcasts - radio, TV,)	Yes
Information is provided with proactive guidance to manage disaster risk	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Most of the information reaching the sub-national communes and villages comes from Viet Nam television or radio. This information is transmitted primarily before and during disaster situations, and information about disaster risk preparedness or prevention is uneven.

At the national level, the CCFSC website has provided information on recent disaster events, on DRR/ DRM documentation/publications and as well as some historical disaster damage and losses. However, this information system does not include regularly information on drought, forest fires and other kinds of hazards/disasters,

and currently the data posted is not up to date. The CCFSC requires its system from commune to provincial and sectors to report and share information on disaster damage and disaster preparedness plans with the relevant agencies.

In recent years, this information has been updated in a more timely fashion. Annually, the CCFSC produces a report on disasters and losses but this is still very much focused on damage and water-related disasters. Drought damage is not being collected, reported regularly but by event mostly by the Department of Irrigation and Construction Management (DICM) and Department of water resource.

While supporting the CCFSC website in term of information sharing, DMC, Vietnam earthquake information and tsunami warning center also has its own website to share information on disasters in Vietnam and worldwide and CBDRM.

The National Centre for Hydro-Meteorology provides a timely and accessible source of information on forecasting and early warning of the main hazards (typhoon, floods, rainfall). MoNRE has a Webpage dedicated to hydro-meteorology and climate change.

Mass media (notably VTV and VoV), newspapers in Vietnamese and English also provide disaster information on their programs for early warning and forecasting. To date, no other ministries have separate web-pages for DRR or CCA topics. MARD and CCFSC does but it is not updated regularly.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

There is no systematic collection of hazard risk information and data is not always available, nor accessible to the public. To date although the CCFSC has damage and needs assessment templates, these are not used consistently throughout the country. Also there is no established and consistent, systematic mechanism to access all types of DRR information. The information that is collected on disasters is often scattered amongst different agencies. In addition, there are frequent problems with the CCFSC website (e.g. slow, unstable, and not quickly updated).

Currently there is no central government statistics/inventory to provided data on assistance provided to affected communities. Each agency maintains and reports on what they have, or did, and do not necessarily share with others. There is currently no specific legislation instructing relevant authorities to collect and share information/statistics. A common criticism is that information that is passed down to communes/villages for disaster preparedness and response is also often too technical and contains too much jargon.

At provincial level such as Thua Thien Hue province, Ho Chi Minh city, Long An, Bac

Lieu developed DRM website for information sharing. However, there is lack of information on DRR in local level and people found that it is difficult to access those information, except some communes which deployed projects in DRR with support from NGOs and international organizations. The only source of information is annual flood and storm control plan and some programs on radio and television meaning that the most vulnerability communities are not always able to access information.

Core indicator 2

School curricula, education material and relevant trainings include disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts and practices.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum? Yes

primary school curriculum	No
secondary school curriculum	No
university curriculum	Yes
professional DRR education programmes	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

MoET approved the Action plan for implementation of the National Strategy on Disaster Reduction, Preparedness and Response in the Education sector from 2011-2020 through decision No. 4068/QĐ-BGDĐT dated 8th Sep 2011. To implement this plan, the Minister of MoET also approved 3 programs

- Mainstreaming content of Disaster prevention and control into curriculum at schools
- Develop disaster information management system for training and education sector period of 2013-2020;
- Information, propaganda on response to climate change and disaster prevention

and control in school period of 2013-2020.

These programs are under now under implementation and MoET has begun to develop training documents and to train the teachers taskforce group. Development of a curriculum framework for education on disasters preparedness and response and climate change in school at preschool, secondary, continuing education is also underway.

MoET is also cooperating with other countries and international organizations through the DRR and CCA cooperation working group supporting for the training and education sector. This group is chaired by MoET and has the participation of Save the Children and UNICEF. The task force also supports emergency aid after a disaster occurs as well as training activities in schools.

With regards to higher education, some Universities have training program on DRM such as Ha Noi University of Public Health, and the Hanoi University of Water Resources which has DRM courses, and has recently initiated a Masters Program on DRM. The Asian Institute of Technology in Vietnam and Vietnam National University also provide some training on both DRR and CCA

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The biggest challenge is that the education sector faces is an over-burdened curriculum, which creates a huge workload on students with many subjects. There is also a lack of practical experience and resources to bring DRR into different subjects within the existing curricula.

The principle of mainstreaming requires that the content of natural disaster prevention and control are integrated into subjects and extracurricular activities. However, the educational programs at all levels are in the process of being renewing, so the implementation of DRR and CCA activities in school also needs to be adjusted.

The Government and training and education sector has committed to bring training on DRR into schools and to train students on skills to prevent and respond to natural disasters. However, the implementation of this plan will take time and contents and integration methods suitable must be tailored for schools at different ages. Currently, the training and education sector lacks documentation and tools for integrating the content of natural disaster prevention and control and climate change adaptation into the curriculum, especially with regards to contents suitable each hazard regions of the country. Schools also have difficulties in developing teaching materials, extra-curricular agenda and training sessions. There is also a lack of trainers trained in DRR and CCA, especial trainers in areas where disaster often occur and have high

vulnerability as well as a gap in financial resources to develop a training programs and to cover the costs of developing and publishing materials, as well as to facilitate Training of Trainers courses.

Core indicator 3

Research methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and cost benefit analysis are developed and strengthened.

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget? No

Research programmes and projects	Yes
Research outputs, products or studies are applied / used by public and private institutions	Yes
Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Recently, a number of research projects have been carried out on climate change and DRR. Topics include climate change and sea level rise in the Mekong Delta, hydro-meteorological research, gender and DRR, traditional knowledge on DRR, DRR financing. The research capacity in DRM is gradually increasing with modern tools such as remote sensing, GIS, VCA, earthquakes and tsunamis risk assessment and climate change modeling. Cost benefit analysis methodologies for Urban DRR are also being developed in Da Nang, Quy Nhon and Can Tho. Although the need for further research on DRR issues is reflected in national policy, there are only a limited number of existing research agencies with modern technology and advanced capacity. These entities, usually within universities, institutes mainly focus on hydro-meteorological risks and modeling. There is also limited dissemination of results of research, findings and recommendations.

PRA and VCA tools have been used and shared widely throughout project sites. Such multi-risk assessment tools are being applied reasonably consistently at the local level with the support of INGOs/Red Cross. In 2011/12 UNDP supported the development of a multi-hazard risk assessment methodology for the identification of the commune level. This research developed an integrated risk index utilizing nationally available statistical data on hazards, disaster damage, terrain, rainfall, population census, poverty rate.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The first challenge is to finalize, publish and disseminate widely the findings of the multi-hazard risk assessment work undertaken at the commune levels. This is somewhat controversial and some criticism has been received by a variety of stakeholders skeptical about its utilization by the GoV.

There is a gap in the capacity of researchers to apply modern research tools including Cost-Benefit Analysis, SEA, EIA, multi-criteria assessment, gender mainstreaming etc. There is also a heavy research focus on water resources versus overall DRM. There also is a lack of studies on urban DRR given the complexity of this topic.

The role that research institutes play in improving DRR and disaster response is not fully recognized and as a result, research findings are not well integrated in future policy making and planning processes.

Finally, limited human and financial resources for proper studies and mechanisms for setting up research institutes, both within and outside the government, significantly hinders the development of research capacity and research institutions.

Core indicator 4

Countrywide public awareness strategy exists to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do public education campaigns for risk-prone communities and local authorities include disaster risk? Yes

Public education campaigns for enhanced awareness of risk.	Yes
Training of local government	Yes
Disaster management (preparedness and emergency response)	Yes
Preventative risk management (risk and vulnerability)	Yes
Guidance for risk reduction	No
Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The National DRM Strategy and Decision on CBDRM include considerable emphasis on promoting awareness on DRR through public awareness raising activities and training. The Decision on CBDRM sets out a target to disseminate knowledge about flood and storm prevention and control and disaster mitigation to 70% of population in communes in disaster-frequented areas by 2020. UNDP and NGOs supported to develop CBDRM implementation guidelines, training materials, an M&E framework and other tools.

There are also a number of national and international organizations, including the Women's Union, Red Cross, UN and national and international NGOs are working on DRR in support of the national CBDRM program and providing training for leaders at all levels on disaster prevention and control in high-risk communities.

Annually public education campaigns are organized on the Viet Nam Disaster Reduction Day, International Disaster Reduction Day as well as annual simulation exercises/rehearsals before the rainy season are operated at all levels. MoNRE and DoNREs also organize different public events on CCA and environment protection topics. Annual review meetings are also held at all levels to review and plan DRM and search and rescue activities. Work is also ongoing to build a communication strategy for DRR. This strategy mentions contents of activities, time frame, implementation agencies and types of communication. The JANI network with the participation of 16 organizations has also been very active in awareness raising and in documenting best-practice.

The MoIC and its departments at the provincial level are highly committed and possess sufficient mass media with modern technology (TV, radio, cable TV, print newspapers, internet and landline) to launch public education programs to providing the infrastructure for DRR. MoIC has a Free Public Communication Fund to be utilized for supporting the provision of equipment to receive radio/cell phone. It also provides SMS system for EWS text messages.

Viet Nam Digital Company launched a dedicated channel, VTC14, for broadcasting documentaries and news about DRR. VTV is also planning to launch a channel on the same topic. With this system in place, the possibility to reach rural and urban communities, especially in the more remote and vulnerable areas will be increased dramatically.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The national communication strategy will need significant investment to implement proposed activities and conduct public campaigns on DRR. At the community level, annual disaster planning must include some public awareness raising activities and needs to be provided with sufficient financial resources.

The greater advocacy efforts will be needed to attract the participation of the private sector and community as a whole for public awareness campaigns in order to mobilize sufficient resources and build a culture of disaster resilience.

The lack of human resources with expertise in public education campaigns in the GoV DRM sector may hinder the progress of implementing CBDRM.

Priority for Action 4

Reduce the underlying risk factors

Core indicator 1

Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc) Yes

Protected areas legislation	Yes
Payment for ecosystem services (PES)	Yes
Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)	Yes
Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)	Yes
Climate change adaptation projects and programmes	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There has been considerable progress in recent years with respect to the development of environmental policies and legislation. The National Climate Change Strategy (2011) includes provisions on food, energy and water security; poverty alleviation, gender equality; social security; public health; improving living standards and conserving natural resources. The Strategy also considers low carbon economy and green growth as main principles for sustainable development and reducing GHG

emission as mandatory in socio-economic development policy. Awareness raising, participation and capacity enhancement are also highlighted as too is international engagement to address climate change. The strategy also established the National Committee on Climate Change (NCCC) to assist the Government on devising immediate and long-term action plans, programs and strategies to cope with climate change and enhancing inter-sectoral coordination and planning.

Decree 99/2010 regulated on payment for forest environmental service (PFES) was first promulgated in Vietnam. The Decree states clearly users of forest environmental services must pay money to providers of these services. Forest environment services referred to in this Decree include: Soil protection, restriction of erosion and sedimentation of reservoirs, rivers and streams; Regulation and maintenance of water sources for production and social life; Forest carbon sequestration and retention, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by measures of preventing forest degeneration and forest area decrease and developing forests in a sustainable manner; Protection of natural landscape and conservation of biodiversity of eco-systems for tourism services; and Provision of spawning grounds, sources of feed and natural seeds, use of water from forests for aquaculture.

A number of natural resource management sectors (including agriculture, forestry, fisheries and water resources) have also included DRR rationale, objectives and measures within their sector strategies, target plans and master plans at national and provincial levels. A number of Government Decisions related to national development strategy, which have been approved by the Government, consider DRR as one of the strategic objectives. One of the objectives of the Vietnam Sustainable Development Strategy (2011 - 2020) is to reduce the negative economic impacts to the environment by exploiting rationally and utilizing effectively, natural resources, especially non-reproductive natural resources. Green GDP, ESI and forestry coverage are some of indicators to monitor and evaluate the Strategy. This is significant progress showing that the GoV will incorporate DRR into the national development strategy.

The Law on Environmental Protection provides instructions and implementation procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for investment projects and SEA for policies (or strategies), programs and plans. These create a theoretical legal basis for assessing potential disaster risks and impacts. These procedures are now increasingly applied and do inform projects, policies, programs and plans, e.g. an SEA is currently being carried out to inform the development of the Forestry Master Plan (2011-2020). This SEA has actually included DRR as an environmental/sustainable development issue throughout the assessment. Although there are no legal stipulations that disaster risks have to be addressed in either EIA or SEA, they do create new space for the inclusion of disaster risk concerns in the formulation of projects, policies, programs and plans at the national level.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities

and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Weak inter-sectoral coordination and planning has traditionally and continues to be a significant factor in development planning. Sectors and line agencies are effectively instructed to develop their plans and tend to do so without consultation or inputs from other sectors. The establishment of the National Committee on Climate Change should contribute to harmonize sectoral coordination and planning.

There is a lack of human resources with environmental qualifications and there is only limited support for public sector in-service training in environmental management. As a consequence, departments with environmental responsibilities do not have staff with relevant skills and qualifications particularly at local levels. Disaster risk issues are also not a requirement for investigation or appraisal within EIA guidelines at the present time. However the DRM Law clearly outlines the requirement for disaster risk assessment in the planning and designing of investment projects.

The National Sustainable Development Strategy (2011 - 2020) considers environmental protection as a vital factor in development. However, in order to harmonize the balance between economic and social benefits, there should be regulations in place to enforce business sectors, especially those benefiting from natural resources, to fulfill their social responsibilities. In addition, there is lack of community knowledge of, responsibilities to and involvement with DRR and climate change adaptation (CCA), which is crucial to increase the resilience of the country.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) should be applied to all PPPs at national level according to the Law on Environment Protection but it is a new concept and only just being implemented. SEA for a sector or provincial plans should incorporate DRR as an issue in guiding PPP development at the concept stage. Disaster risk issues are also not a required aspect of investigation or appraisal within SEA guidelines at the present time.

There has undoubtedly been considerable progress in terms of developing environmental policies and legislation however, there is limited awareness of those regulations and enforcement of the law remains weak. There is a need for broad participation amongst various agencies and sectors to achieve environmental goals and targets. Additional factors restricting the implementation of environmental policies and legislation include, in some cases conflicting legislation, limited operational budgets for enforcement activities, and powers of regulatory authorities such as forest protection department rangers and the lack of inter-agency coordination in law enforcement.

Core indicator 2

Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the

vulnerability of populations most at risk.

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do social safety nets exist to increase the resilience of risk prone households and communities? Yes

Crop and property insurance	Yes
Temporary employment guarantee schemes	Yes
Conditional and unconditional cash transfers	No
Micro finance (savings, loans, etc.)	Yes
Micro insurance	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Viet Nam is one of the world's largest producers of rice and large stockpiles of rice are reserved for emergency response operations. Food insecurity is not generally a significant problem except for some remote and isolated communities, and adequate measures are in place to provide food in emergency situations. There is a network of hospitals and health centers down to the commune level, therefore such basic needs are reasonably addressed. The GoV also diverts a substantial proportion of the state budget towards investing in providing basic services in rural areas and there are government programs specifically targeted towards the poor, including the 134 and 135 Programs which support infrastructure development for poor, remote communes; the 167 program (housing for the poor) and there are certain sectoral investments which favor poor and vulnerable groups, e.g. the 661 program in the forestry sector, which provides a small income for forest protection to poor households.

Recently, the government approved a comprehensive program, the NTP for New Rural Development in the period of 2010 – 2020, to boost the development of the rural areas, where population occupies 67.64%. The program aims to create a new change in agriculture and rural areas, and improve living standards of farmers. By June 2014, after three years of implementing the NTP for New Rural Development, 185 communes achieved all 19 sets of indicators, 93,1% of the total communes in

the country completed the development of its master plans, 81% of the total communes with their new rural development proposals were approved, more than 9000 production models are effective, farmers' income increased 1.8 times in 2013 compared to that in 2010, rural poverty rate decreased 2%/year in average to 12.6% in 2013.

Resolution 80 on sustainable poverty reduction from 2011 – 2020 concentrates on infrastructure development, production support, vocational training, creating jobs for the poor, providing health care and education support, legal assistance, culture, information and housing aids for poor households in the poor districts and communes, extreme difficulty villages and disaster-prone areas in the whole country. Meanwhile, the NTP for sustainable poverty reduction 2012 - 2015 aims to improve living conditions of the poor, especially those who are ethnic minority people, in the poor districts, border communes, ATK communes, extreme difficulty communes and villages and coastal and island communes.

Preferential interest rates and loans are available for the rural poor through the Viet Nam Banks for Social Policy and Agriculture and Rural Development Bank. ODA financed rural development projects have also provided microfinance options but this is project-based rather than state-led institutional commitment.

Decree 136/2013 decides policy to support injured, death or missing during disasters; support building and repairing houses for poor households who have houses destroyed or damaged during disasters; emergency support for children who have parents died or are missing during disasters.

The country is now also beginning to develop some aspects of a welfare state as the new employment law (2009) also provides some protection for laborers who lose their jobs due to disasters and other force majeure. Decree 64/2009 provides stipulations on levels of support to be provided to people who have suffered housing damage or loss of a household member during a disaster.

Decision 118/2007/QĐ-TTg provides financial assistance to fisher folk recovering from disasters at sea. Decision 142/2009/QĐ-TTg provides support to farmers with rice seed, animal breeding, etc. affected by natural disaster, pestilent insects, and animal epidemic. The Law also provides some provisions financial contingency and DRR funds. Thus there has been some progress but without systematic policy or substantive commitment, particularly with regards to insurance schemes, social safety nets, cash transfers and post disaster recovery and reconstruction.

According to a MoF's report, agricultural insurance is provided by two companies Bao Viet and Groupama but few farmers pay for it. In total approximately USD1 million in fees were collected in 2008 (mostly for livestock and rubber trees, no rice).

Up to 2011, the government issued a Decision 315/2011/QĐ-TTg on piloting agricultural insurance for the period of 2011 – 2013 covering three products, namely rice insurance, domestic animal insurance and aquaculture insurance. The agricultural insurance program was to help farmers to recover financial losses caused by natural disasters and epidemic to contribute to the stabilization of rural social security and promoting agriculture production. After three years of implementation, the program piloted agricultural insurance activities in 20 provinces; 304,017

households (poor households accounted for 80.8%) signed the insurance contracts. Total insured value was 7,747.9 billion VND, of those, 2,151 billion VND for rice plant, 2,713.2 billion VND for domestic animals and 2,883.7 billion VND for aquaculture. Total insurance revenue was 394 billion VND but total compensation was 701.8 billion VND.

The Community-based Disaster Risk Management Program (CBDRM) endorsed by the GoV in July 2009 provides the policy framework for protection and support for population groups most vulnerable to disasters, including financial and human resources, for implementation across relevant activities.

The health sector has started implementing models on making hospital/health facilities safer in disaster prone areas.

In 2010, Vietnam joined Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. At the 8th section of the XIIIth National Assembly, the Vietnam Government passed the resolution on Convention of the Rights of Person with Disability showing clearly the commitment of Vietnam and creating legal basis for implementing the Convention.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

There are significant funding gaps for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction and for mitigation. The costs of short-term response are generally met through draw-downs from the national/provincial contingency budgets and if necessary the national reserve. However, the lack of a disaster risk financing strategy means that recovery and reconstruction phases are subject to significant delays as finances are transferred or that they are not there at all. Thus funds for livelihood support and rehabilitation are not available, and this includes social protection and safety nets for the poor. Social security activities tend to only focuses on recovery after disasters, rather than prevention,

Though an agricultural insurance program has been developed, its scope is limited to 20 provinces and it is not well known. Moreover, agricultural insurance products were set for only rice, domestic animal and aquaculture. Hence, the market for such insurance products is limited. Another important issue is Insurance companies such as Bao Viet, Bao Minh and Vietnam National Reinsurance Corporation suffered financial losses of more than 300 billion VND from agricultural insurance over the last three years. This is a barrier for insurance companies to mobilize funds for this young service.

At present, it is only the social security program which mentions DRR (Decree 136/2013), both NTP for Sustainable Poverty Reduction and New Rural Development Program were developed before the DRM Law was born in 2014 and did not take disaster issues into consideration.

There is also not a national policy addressing disaster risks in the health sector.

In a recent Decision 1061/QD-TTg, the government assigned Ministry of Planning and Investment to lead the development of a Circular on guidance of mainstreaming DRR into sector and socio-economic planning. It is expected to have this Circular issued by the end of 2014 or beginning 2015.

The roll out implementation of the CBDRM program faces major challenges due to lack of financial resources especially at the sub-national levels.

Core indicator 3

Economic and productive sectorial policies and plans have been implemented to reduce the vulnerability of economic activities

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment? No

National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.	Yes
Please provide specific examples: e.g. public infrastructure, transport and communication, economic and productive assets	
Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

National Strategy for socio-economic development in term of 2011-2020 said that "economic and social development must always appreciate the protection and improvement of environment and actively respond to climate change". On that basis, the ministries, localities also have plans, strategy development. The agricultural sector has planned to build, consolidate dykes, irrigation systems,

port security and non-structural measures including the introduction of resilient varieties of rice and other crops, livestock, altering cropping systems, subsidization of crop insurance, promotion of agro-forestry models intended to stabilize upland production and therefore reduce soil erosion, landslides and flash flooding.

The Government has land-use planning for economic development; however, socio-economic development in a number of localities has not complied with planning, increasing the risk of natural disasters. A revised Land Law came into effect in July 2014 which it is hoped will help increase adherence to sound land use planning.

Non-structural measures include mandatory insurance for fishers, support for fishery cooperatives. The forestry sector the goal set in the Strategy for Vietnam forestry development from 2006 – 2020 was to increase the national forest cover up to 47% by 2020. Until the end of 2013, the forest cover was 40.96%. There is a special focus on reforesting bare land, critical watersheds and coastal areas (mangroves) for their protective functions.

Currently, a number of DRR preparedness and mitigation measures are included in sectoral plans at national and provincial levels including strengthening foundations, hospital safety. Such public buildings also double as evacuation centers during emergencies. A number of projects and activities of the mining industry, construction, transport, hydropower have been fast developing with limited attention paid to the environmental impacts and there is a greater need to balance economic benefits with environmental risk to local populations in the mining areas.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

There have been substantial achievements in terms of providing a considerable number of actual and planned public investments in infrastructure intended to safeguard livelihoods and economic sectors. However, decisions have to be made based on what is still relatively limited climate change and hazard modeling information.

There also continues to be a lack of investment in disaster risk assessments at the project level, leading in some cases to increased risk through poor planning.

Core indicator 4

Planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there investment to reduce the risk of vulnerable urban settlements? Yes

Investment in drainage infrastructure in flood prone areas	Yes
Slope stabilisation in landslide prone areas	Yes
Training of masons on safe construction technology	Yes
Provision of safe land and housing for low income households and communities	Yes
Risk sensitive regulation in land zoning and private real estate development	Yes
Regulated provision of land titling	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The new Law on Disaster Prevention and Control includes provisions to promote disaster prevention when making investment projects for urban construction, rural residential and infrastructure projects in accordance with the law environmental, construction and urban planning.

The MoC has a Master Plan for Urban Planning until 2020 includes the continuation of a large scale program implemented since 2000 to relocate people from flood-prone areas of the Mekong Delta; resettlement of populations vulnerable to coastal erosion. The migration, resettlement and infrastructure planning is the key contents of Land Use Plans (LUPs) as are other major infrastructure such as sea dykes and dams.

The MoC has issued 1,000 codes/guidelines for safe construction, including 10 standards for DRR. In 2008, MoC issued instructions for the application of construction technologies/techniques in the various hazard zones in order that developments and infrastructures are resistant to the differing and multiple hazards throughout the country. The MoC have also produced flood-resistant and typhoon-

resistant housing models (disseminated to provinces). However, there remains a major gap between these guidelines and standards and their relevance on the one hand and the reality of building practice in the communes/villages by local builders on the other.

The MoC also issued information on typhoon and flood resistant housing models which were disseminated to provincial authorities. Overall the construction standards are sufficient; however, public and private structures are still annually damaged by disasters principally as investors have not followed the standards strictly due to limited funding or the lack of enforcement of such hazard proofing. However, infrastructure developments frequently go ahead without construction permits and therefore do not go through the required technical assessments and investigations. Besides, most of structures have not yet ensured that the vulnerable group (such as people with disability, older people) can be easily accessible due to lack of participation of them in process of structure design and monitoring.

Moreover, although the National Strategy 2020 states that DRR should be integrated in such plans, clearer legislative guidance and tools are required to support the process of integration of DRR (particularly non-structural) measures in planning at the local levels.

A number of national, regional or provincial projects focusing on relocating disaster-prone communities were implemented, including for the Mekong Delta Region, Central Region and numerous hazard prone provinces. Decision 193/2006 of the Prime Minister promotes the planned relocation of 150,000 households living in disaster-prone and extreme difficult areas, border and island areas, important and very important areas of protection forests, restricted zones of protected areas, and free migration areas. This is the single largest population movement program ever.

In 2012, the Government issued a Decision 1776/QĐ-TTg to approve the program on population distribution of the regions of natural disasters, difficulties, border and island areas, important and very important areas of protection forests, restricted zones of protected areas, and free migration areas for the period of 2013 – 2015 and oriented to 2020. 55,900 households are targeted for relocation from 2013 – 2015. This program replaced Decision 193/2006. According to the official letter 348/TB-VPCP dated on August 24, 2014 from the Government Office, 71,413 households that have been relocated from the disaster prone areas causing by flash flood and landslide under the programs of 193 and 1776.

A national level zoning of earthquake vulnerable areas has been completed by Geophysical Institute. Technical requirements for the construction of earthquake-proof buildings have also been issued by MoC but further studies need to be conducted to be suitable for the Vietnamese context.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities

and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

As a result of rapid economic and population growth in recent decades, land in general and safe land in particular, is becoming scarce. This is a major challenge particularly when climate change brings even relatively small rises in sea levels. According to MoNRE Climate Change Scenarios for the Mekong Delta, without any major infrastructural changes, it is expected that approximately 19% of the land area would be inundated by a 75cm of SLR anticipated by 2100 (according to medium level severity projections). This in turn would necessitate the relocation of several million people – if they were to be relocated, however, it is uncertain where. Although there has been some relocation of at-risk populations and other measures are currently being put into place that will protect significant numbers of people (e.g. sea dykes and drainage systems in urban areas), the country needs more comprehensive hazard modeling data to identify safe and disaster prone areas and without this it is challenging to know the actual number and specifically which communities remain at risk.

Another challenge associated with safeguarding populations and settlements is ensuring that comprehensive holistic solutions are achieved and that the problem is not moved (either geographically or the problem changes). For example, large areas of Ho Chi Minh City have been protected from flooding by drainage systems, however, currently the city is facing with issues such as tidal flooding, waste, pollution, clean water and sanitation.. Such issues will become more common as free migration issues in the increasingly urban.

An important associated consideration is also the levels of unplanned or unregulated construction. There are town planning processes and regulations but there is a high level of development in urban areas which either takes place without the necessary permission or planning regulations are not fully enforced. It is an extremely difficult sector to manage and enforce given the rapid pace of development.

It is not only unplanned resettlement that has implications for DRR; there are considerable challenges in terms of both managing water resources and creating sufficient energy to power a rampant economy and an increasing population. The solution has been to build small, medium and large dams on virtually every significant watershed in the country both for hydropower and for agriculture. Valleys are flooded and people are resettled. Due to the already intensive land use mosaic, people are being resettled on increasingly marginal lands, displacing rural populations who may be forced to farm on fragile, sloping forest lands, in turn creating further issues of watershed protection.

Thus there are significant issues ahead for the country and the challenge will be to manage population and economic growth and ensure that people and the economy are able to live and grow in a safe environment. On a more pragmatic level, there are also important weaknesses to be addressed in the construction sector with regard to ensuring the quality of investments, i.e. that construction enterprises and their workers are fully qualified and trained, that codes and guidelines are better adapted to local needs and realities, and are then being followed and implemented, that

regulations are enforced, and that there is adequate transparency and accountability in the construction sector.

Core indicator 5

Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do post-disaster programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR for resilient recovery? No

% of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR	
DRR capacities of local authorities for response and recovery strengthened	Yes
Risk assessment undertaken in pre- and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction planning	No
Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Recently, there has been some preliminary analysis by the WB and ADB on how risk financing mechanisms can create favorable conditions for the establishment of a reserve fund used for early recovery and reconstruction. Currently, Vietnam has not only recovery and reconstruction funds, but also the general reserve fund (about 2.5% of the national budget and provincial budgets). In emergency case, the government can extract from national reserves for emergency response, recovery and reconstruction. This system has generally been evaluated as sufficient for emergency response but there are significant funding gaps for longer term recovery and reconstruction (this is partly because the existing damage assessment tool does

not take account of longer term sustainable development and recovery needs). Several risk financing options are available that aim to increase the liquidity of assets and enable the faster allocation of funds for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction. .

The DRM Law also includes text on post-disaster reconstruction and provisions for integrating DRR. There is some progress in rebuilding schools, hospitals, roads after a disaster; with consideration of “building back better”, however, these examples need to be in a master policy, linking construction with sustainable development, and undertaken at scale rather than on an ad hoc basis.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

As has been demonstrated above, although there have been some achievements with regard to the development of some hazard-resistant models for reconstruction, guidelines are generally not closely followed and there are significant gaps in terms of regulations and standards in place. Even with legislation, regulations and standards in place there are still significant problems with implementation and enforcement due to budgetary constraints both for reconstruction materials themselves as well as the operational costs of monitoring and enforcement.

No reconstruction trust fund has been established at the national level and effectively once contingency reserves have been utilized in post-disaster emergency response only a small percentage of reconstruction needs can be met within a reasonably responsive timeframe. Otherwise reconstruction needs are met through the prioritization of construction budgets during the following year's budget allocations in construction sector plans and SEDPs.

There will also be a need for developing further ancillary legislation in this area to refer to particular guidelines, procedures, regulations, and standards for particular hazards and hazard zones. Consultation with stakeholders also revealed a distinct lack of gender mainstreaming and sensitization in recovery and reconstruction – this will need to be addressed in policy and legislation as well as in implementation (requiring training in appropriate approaches, methodologies and tools as well as the necessary financial provisions). The country will need to further explore risk financing options in order to be better able to allocate adequate funds for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.

‘Guidelines for Emergency Response and Early Recovery’ were approved by DMC/MARD in 2011. New disaster assessment guidelines have also recently been approved that cover a number of recovery and reconstruction indicators. Further work to integrate these efforts with wider regional ASEAN approaches is currently underway.

Core indicator 6

Procedures are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects, especially infrastructure.

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the impacts of disaster risk that are created by major development projects assessed? Yes

Are cost/benefits of disaster risk taken into account in the design and operation of major development projects? No

Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)	No
By national and sub-national authorities and institutions	Yes
By international development actors	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Achievements in terms of integrating certain, mainly structural, DRR measures into sectoral and provincial development plans and Action Plans have been created for the implementation of DRR policy in provinces and sectors. However, disaster risk assessment is not yet mandatory in PPPs or in the screening of major projects. However, some plans such as the hydropower master plan until 2020 do include such provisions. Large scale projects of national priorities such as major highways or large dams are also subject to SEA and disaster risk assessment becomes an important and mandatory element in EIA procedures for projects of these dimensions. Disaster impact assessment has been regulated as a compulsory element for dam construction (except the small-scale dams/weirs) and expressways, but not yet for other types of project.

Disaster risk assessment and management also have been identified as important components in urban development planning.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

SEA procedures are a recent development and there are still considerable challenges as effective tools and processes are required for its implementation across different sectors. MoNRE as the lead government agency on SEA and EIA is aware of many of these challenges and is beginning to address low levels of awareness of what SEA is and its purpose amongst government staff at all levels through various capacity building initiatives. SEA legislation should also be altered in the future to specifically include disaster risk assessment. Similarly, project-level EIA procedures should also be updated to include disaster risk assessment. Another feature of EIAs is the absence of public consultation. Even if environmental impacts are considered in project design and mitigation or compensation measures stipulated as a pre-condition for approval and development by the proponent, there is generally weak monitoring and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations. The result of limited EIAs is that frequently developments do have substantial environmental impacts including disasters such as flooding and landslides resulting from highway/road construction or flooding resulting directly from dam discharges. It is difficult for the public to gain access to or obtain monitoring information and in any case there are little if any compensation or mitigation measures attached to the development.

Priority for Action 5

Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels

Core indicator 1

Strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are in place.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are there national programmes or policies for disaster preparedness, contingency planning and response? Yes

DRR incorporated in these programmes and policies	Yes
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The institutional mechanisms exist for the rapid mobilisation of resources in a disaster, utilising civil society and the private sector; in addition to public sector support.	Yes
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Are there national programmes or policies to make schools and health facilities safe in emergencies? Yes

Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety	Yes
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Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness	No
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Are future disaster risks anticipated through scenario development and aligned preparedness planning? No

Potential risk scenarios are developed taking into account climate change projections	Yes
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Preparedness plans are regularly updated based on future risk scenarios	No
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Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Vietnam already has a fairly complete structure of DRM with the CCFSC's organizational system and the local CFSC. The Government has issued Decree 66/2014/ND-CP on strengthening the capacity and the organizational system of Disaster preparedness and search and rescue at all levels. At national level CCFSC and CCFSR coordinate effectively in emergency response situations. At the provincial level and below, CFSR have contributed to increased efficiency and timeliness of response activities. The A network of social institutions including the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the VNRC, the Viet Nam Women's Union and Youth Union volunteers also very actively involved in emergency relief operations.

As most flood and storm control staff work part-time on DRM issues, they were not formally trained in DRR or DRM. Although the capacity for response (evacuation, search and rescue) is strong, the DRR and planning (for recovery and risk reduction) is still weak. Although training and capacity building is one of the components of the CBDRM program, it has not yet been systemized and there is still a need to train more staff under this program. As of September 2014, 1044 provincial officials had been trained and mentored about CBDRM. The majority of those trained came from the Red Cross and the Commander of PCLB province. More than 480 staff members 15 provinces have been trained on managing and reviewing RRTT-DVCD, and pilots applying the newly approved tools have been completed in more than 40 communes in 20 provinces.

There are specific programmes for improving the safety of schools and hospitals within relevant sector plans and policies (MoET and MoH). The WHO has been particularly active in piloting 'safer hospitals' throughout the country. In the Mekong delta and the Central region which are particularly disaster prone, the education and health sector have plans to upgrade all facilities to be flood-proof taking into account the experiences with the historic floods. For example, the foundation of buildings in the Mekong delta must be elevated higher than the past flood level in 2000 and the new facilities must be permanent houses with at least two storey buildings.

In terms of simulation exercises, mock training and drills, at national level Viet Nam has participated in a few ASEAN orchestrated regional disaster preparedness drills and hosted the ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (ARDEX) in 2013. At local level, annually, CFSC and local authorities usually conduct rehearsals with participation of army soldiers, police, Red Cross and youth volunteers, and community representatives. However, due to funding constraints, the drills are mostly conducted in communes, districts impacted extremely and frequently by disaster and they have not been regular activities. In some provinces, the drill is conducted one or two times a year with the national budget. Currently training and

mock drills in schools and hospitals for emergency preparedness are carried out sporadically but has not been institutionalized on a national scale.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Although strong policy mechanisms are in place, equipments and human resource are still limited due to lack of professionalization and methodical training on disasters. It is necessary to better disseminate national level research findings to the local levels for improved planning and implementation of DRR. Currently, the main priority remains focused on preparedness and early recovery. On the other hand, most of the CFSC officers from central to grassroots levels are part-time or only have expertise on irrigation. There are few schools, specialized training in the field of prevention and DRM.

The increasing frequency and intensity of disasters has drawn more organizations and individuals to become involved in the disaster response (donation and relief distribution), including religious entities, private companies, local NGOs. However, these actors have limited knowledge and skills in DRM that sometimes cause difficulties for local authorities in maintaining fair and transparent relief actions and coordination.

Moreover, DRR is still considered as the responsibility of Agriculture and Rural Development sector; other sectors and civil society are mostly involved when a disaster occurs. A greater focus should be put on non-structural measures for DRR which is now required and there is strong institutional commitment to this through the Decision on CBDRM. The linkages between DRR and CCA should also be further explored in the light of the importance of the climate change agenda now and in the future. In addition, there is a need for standardized curricula, qualifications, ToT in DRM planning, First Responder training and other skills for DRR – some of which is being addressed by the 2012-2016 UNDP supported project with MARD, the Red Cross and the INGO community.

Core indicator 2

Disaster preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at all administrative levels, and regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the contingency plans, procedures and resources in place to deal with a major disaster? Yes

Plans and programmes are developed with gender sensitivities	No
Risk management/contingency plans for continued basic service delivery	Yes
Operations and communications centre	Yes
Search and rescue teams	Yes
Stockpiles of relief supplies	Yes
Shelters	Yes
Secure medical facilities	Yes
Dedicated provision for disabled and elderly in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities	Yes
Businesses are a proactive partner in planning and delivery of response	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Annually, 100% communes, districts, and provinces conduct review and evaluate the implementation results of last year and make flood and storm control and disaster risk management plans for the upcoming disaster season including updates on the disaster situations, strengthening the organizational structure, etc.

At the national level, the CCFSC also conducts a review meeting and develop a plan for the whole country and relevant ministries also develop a plan for each sector. However, the focus is still within the focal agency – MARD and its branches. There is a need for more effective coordination and 'real' exercise planning which takes into account greater public participation and consideration of DRR (this requires sufficient resource allocations at the local level). In many cases, the disaster preparedness and response plans are just prepared by few staff of CFSC/PC who simply updates the previous plans, with limited participation and voices from women representatives into

those plans.

Every year on the National Disaster Day (22nd May), the President sends an official letter to CCFSC and people asking everyone to participate in disaster prevention, response, and recovery. Before the disaster season, the Prime Minister issues an instruction to all stakeholders involved about flood and storm control activities.

The national search and rescue system, under the CCFSC is well established and recently equipped with modern technology and facilities to be ready for conducting S&R missions both onshore and offshore. However, gaps in equipment remain and human resources often work part-time. At commune levels, particularly in mountainous areas, there is still a further need for improved communication equipment and facilities.

The 'Four on-spot' motto is a principle widely utilized for disaster preparedness and response. JANI has developed, published and disseminated a comprehensive booklet on this issue in close collaboration with the CCFSC. Annually, the VNRC conducts First Aid training for its volunteers in some communes. However, the preparation work follow 'Four on-spot' motto is still limited due to lack of resources.

Communication systems are well established for disaster response. In case of major disasters, a frontline office is established and operated in the strategic locations (Ha Noi, Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City) for timely command and control and providing relief support to affected people. There are a number of GoV and Red Cross warehouses and distribution points throughout the country in strategic locations with stockpiles for emergency response.

Shelters for mass evacuation during the short period of time are public buildings with limited water and sanitation facilities as well as gender sensitivities. In case of longer term evacuation, tents provided by the army and Red Cross are used to accommodate people.

There is good coverage of hospitals and health centers down to commune level for basic First Aid and medicines. However, there is a shortage of modern medical supplies and health staff at the local levels for more serious problems/injuries. Health mobile teams are available at provincial and district levels.

Vietnam has a network of hospitals and medical centers with extensive coverage that can provide initial first aid and essential drugs. However, they currently lack modern medical equipment and medical staff is not always trained and available. Mobile medical teams have been established at the Medical Center in the district and provincial hospitals to implement activities in support of network of healthcare facilities when necessary.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be

overcome in the future.

Overall, the disaster preparedness and response plan exists in every commune. However, due to a shortage of funding to conduct simulations/rehearsals at all levels the effectiveness and readiness of these plans is hindered. In addition, the current plans put primary attention to water-related disasters with little attention to other kinds, such as drought, earthquakes, tsunami, etc.

Another challenge is the dissemination of these plans to communes, villages to the household level, especially in the disaster-prone communes. In most cases, the commune authorities and flood and storm control staff keep these plans for their office and with little effort to make it as a public plan through hamlet meetings, the loudspeaker system, and in the schools.

The ‘Four on-spot’ motto is a principle widely utilized for disaster preparedness and response. JANI has developed, published and disseminated a comprehensive booklet on this issue in close collaboration with the CCFSC. Annually, the VNRC conducts First Aid training for its volunteers in some communes. However, the preparation work follow ‘Four on-spot’ motto is still limited due to lack of resource

A good sign in gender issue in the field of DRR was that Vietnam Women Union officially became a member of CCFSC from October 2013 under the Decision 261/QD-PCLBTW. This is an important progress to get women at all levels having their voice and involving in DRR.

Core indicator 3

Financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place to support effective response and recovery when required.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are financial arrangements in place to deal with major disaster? Yes

National contingency and calamity funds	Yes
The reduction of future risk is considered in the use of calamity funds	No
Insurance and reinsurance facilities	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

According to the State Budget Law, 2-5% of annual National/ Provincial Budgets are set aside as contingency funds for responding to natural disasters, diseases and abnormal operations that are unplanned. It is only used when disaster occur and can mainly serve for disaster responses and early recovery activities. The new Law on Disaster Prevention and Controls requires relevant government agencies to stockpile sufficient materials to support search and rescue, response and early recovery. Disaster prevention and control fund will be established at provincial level and used for response and prevention. All local authorities and relevant Ministries have responsibility to reserve essential material for responding in emergency including necessities, food, medicine, rescue vehicle ect.. Besides, Government also encourages donation from social civil, donors, NGOs, private sector and individuals to cope with disasters.

Financial resources are still limited, thus disaster response and recovery activities are paid due attention. Rehabilitation activities are incorporated into the socio-economic plan and loan fund for this can be mobilised from international financial funds.

The “Four on the spot” motto with the two principles of “material and logistics on the spot” are widely utilized and have proven to be effective. However, there are limited reserves for early recovery and reconstruction due to budget constraints. Most of activities are focus on the period of disaster preparedness, response and recovery while the activities for rebuilding after disaster is only integrated in the implementation of social-economic development plan and mobilized from rebuilding after disaster loans from international financial organization.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Currently, the financial reserves for prevention and disaster reduction is not guaranteed, especially in the case of major disasters. The accuracy of damage assessment is also uneven, and there is a lack of capacity and some tools to estimate recovery and reconstruction costs.

On the other hand, in some cases, the use of financial reserves is not reasonable to expect. Reconstruction requirements have to be budgeted out of future capital expenditures and funded from fiscal resources or government borrowing. In practice, it can take several years before government funding becomes available for the reconstruction of severely damaged infrastructure, causing serious disruptions to the local economy and the livelihoods of affected populations.

To date, there is no national financial reserve, catastrophe bonds or catastrophic insurance dedicated to disaster risk management. Recently, Government, international organizations, donors have started do pilot the model of financial guarantee in disaster in Viet Nam.

Public-private partnerships (such as with insurance companies) will become increasingly important as the state burden on providing social protection, security and welfare becomes increasingly unmanageable.

Core indicator 4

Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters, and to undertake post-event reviews.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Has an agreed method and procedure been adopted to assess damage, loss and needs when disasters occur? Yes

Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available	Yes
Post-disaster need assessment methodologies	Yes
Post-disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects	Yes
Identified and trained human resources	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator

(not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The official medias of the state (VTV, VOV, Viet Nam news) are utilised and are effective in information sharing and resource mobilization for responding when a disaster occurs. In addition to the different communication channels (website, brochures etc) of the CCFSC, ministries, branches, local authorities and other organizations also provide timely information for decision-making and coordination with other media.

One of the most practical procedures for exchanging information during the disaster event is the regular meetings of CCFSC standing members to direct ministries, branches at all level prepare and response to disaster.

International organizations and NGOs share information and assess damages as well as emergency needs through disaster management working group and UN- Programme Coordination Group on disaster and emergency relief.

Viet Nam had damage assessment system at all level which implemented by reports from local level to central level according to a unified form.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The existing mechanism for sharing damage information during and after disasters is considered quite good at national level despite some gaps in the accuracy of collected information carried out by reporters, local officials with limited resources, support, skills and professional capacity. There is a still a requirement to improve further the information relating the needs/livelihoods assessments and the ability to assess costs. With the current effort to improve DANA as a standardized tool to assess exactly the damages and relief needs.

Another challenge is the skills gaps/capacity for analysis of assessment results for decision-making by flood and storm control staff at different levels.

Drivers of Progress

a) Multi-hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?: Yes

If yes, are these being applied to development planning/ informing policy?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The National DRM Strategy recognizes the need for an integrated/multi-hazard approach to DRM and it is also emphasized in the new disaster management law. However, there are still difficulties in implementation; detailed indicators and hazard maps at regional level and local level which are foundation for the integration have not been developed, and hazard maps when available are usually for just one hazard.

The NDRMP successfully piloted Integrated DRM approach for three provinces (Quang Nam, Quang Tri and Thanh Hoa in the North Central Coast region) with advanced digitized integrated GIS hazard maps as an impressive output, which are recognized by provincial stakeholders as extremely valuable planning tools. However, most provinces do not have the equipment or sufficient financial resources to develop such tools. Additionally, the majority of provinces would require significant technical assistance to be able to achieve this.

Historically, there have also been a notable number of INGO initiatives throughout the country, which have led or facilitated the development of integrated CBDRM plans but frequently projects face difficulties in ensuring the integration of the plans into SEDPs at the district level and above. One of the constraints here appears to be the short timeframe of donor funding cycles while SEDP has extent in longer time. As a consequence, the outputs of these projects are often not sustainable, particularly as there is no requirement for local authorities to integrate the plans. Thus more often than not the CBDRM plans developed will be approved by local authorities but crucially not integrated into development plans and therefore budgets are not allocated.

The Decision on CBDRM and its gradual implementation requires the development of vulnerability, capacity assessments (VCA) in 6,000 communes and subsequent development of multi-hazard risk assessments, maps and CBDRM plans. In order for this to take place there is a need to scale up and implement standardized approaches and to training trainers programs. Currently, Government offices and local authorities are trying to implement these activities and extent in whole country through combined State and ODA financial support.

b) Gender perspectives on risk reduction and recovery adopted and institutionalized

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Is gender disaggregated data available and being applied to decision-making for risk reduction and recovery activities?: Yes

Do gender concerns inform policy and programme conceptualisation and implementation in a meaningful and appropriate way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The Law on gender equality (2007) and the national strategy on gender equality (2011-2020) stipulates that all ministries and departments subject to mainstreaming gender in their work. The Law on Disaster Prevention and Control also stresses the importance of gender equality as a guiding principle in policy formulation and implementation of the program of GNRRTT. However, no specific rules and guidelines regarding mainstreaming gender issues and how to ensure the programs are gender responsive.

Currently, there is no systematic database to track vulnerability and in a comprehensive manner/ A few small evaluations focusing on particularly vulnerable groups such as women, children and the disabled have been undertaken. Gender disaggregated statistics have not been or are not widely publicized. Gender issues and needs of vulnerable women in response, evacuation, relocation, rehabilitation and in most other aspects of DRM is little mentioned. Applying the approach and tools to integrate gender issues in all areas, consistent with the context of Vietnam has been a critical need. The program to raise awareness and training programs should be enhanced through further mainstreaming of gender issues.

Women and the Viet Nam Women's Union (VWU) play a particularly important role in

DRM planning, response and early recovery at the local levels. In December 2011, a summary of the policy on gender equality in adaptation to climate change (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) was developed with the participation of relevant ministries Women's Union, Red Cross and UN agencies. A policy brief highlights the key messages and recommendations on gender mainstreaming in policies and programs for DRR as required gender analysis in all stages of formulation and implementation of policies and programs of the DRR level; data and information on risk assessment, damages, demands disaster should disaggregated; raise awareness of staff and people on gender mainstreaming in DRR; and strengthen the participation of women in the process of planning and implementing DRR activities.

c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened

Levels of Reliance

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

Do responsible designated agencies, institutions and offices at the local level have capacities for the enforcement of risk reduction regulations?:
Yes

Are local institutions, village committees, communities, volunteers or urban resident welfare associations properly trained for response?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The Government has an on-going skills development program that regularly includes disaster risk management topics in its on-going programs. Government staff from the CCFSC, PCFSC and DMC regularly participate in ad-hoc training programs on DRM issues. As such, capacity continues to improve in key areas including technology transfer, information exchange, the development of networks and professional linkages as well as broader process and technical skills, such as management, accounting and finance, GIS and remote sensing, gender mainstreaming and sensitization, etc. The training programs both for Government staff and community members on CBDRM under the national 1002 program (see above) are also helping raise capacity down to commune level. Now materials and systems have been tested, it is hoped that these commune level activities can be significantly extended in the future.

The VNRC, as part of its mandate, provides first aid/responder training to its staff and search and rescue teams throughout the country and regularly re-trains and updates the training as a dedicated on-going objective. The CFSC staff at local levels are not

full-time and have a number of responsibilities and associated training needs for their own full-time roles, e.g. irrigation or agricultural extension. There are limited budgets for CFSC staff in the provinces (covering their allowances, some basic equipment and stockpiling of essential items for relief operations).

Besides the government program, International NGOs such as CARE, Oxfam, ActionAid, Plan, DW-F, Save the Children and World Vision, as well as the IFRC and the UN agencies - UNDP, FAO, UNICEF and UNESCO - have implemented DRM projects in the field with local level capacity building, including a particular emphasis on strengthening the capacity and building the resilience of communities (as well as local authorities) to better prepare for and manage disaster impacts at the centre of their approaches in implementation.

There has been an increasing focus on building capacity for environmental planning and decision-making processes over the last decade. There has been some progress with ever increasing numbers of national and local GoV staff trained in relevant methodologies and tools such as EIA, SEA, multi-criteria assessment tools, environmental project management, GIS and remote sensing. If applied properly such tools should incorporate important aspects of DRR.

d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities

Levels of Reliance

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

Do programmes take account of socio-environmental risks to the most vulnerable and marginalised groups?: Yes

Are appropriate social protection measures / safety nets that safeguard against their specific socioeconomic and political vulnerabilities being adequately implemented?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

Many of the poorest and the most vulnerable populations in Viet Nam reside in remote and/ or low-lying areas that are particularly at risk from hazard related disasters. The country has long suffered the effects of storms, floods and other natural hazards and certainly disaster response mechanisms are generally well-established and well-practiced. The country also remains a predominantly rural society with around 70% of the population living in rural areas. This means that

disaster response mechanisms have necessarily had to reach people in those remote areas. The country operates by a generally effective 'Four on the Spot' motto (command, manpower, logistics and materials on the spot) in disaster response circumstances with the military quickly mobilized to assist and enabling emergency response operations to reach remote areas relatively quickly.

One of the other advantages of a predominantly rural society is that at the local level a strong culture of community cooperation, social governance and safety nets still pervades and this in turn means that particularly vulnerable groups are prioritized in local level decision-making by communal consensus and prioritized in emergency response. In addition GoV and mass organizational structures extend down to the commune level. The mass organizations in particular play a strong role at grassroots levels in ensuring that the most vulnerable groups are prioritized.

Other examples of how vulnerable groups and populations are prioritized in DRM planning and response include the relocation of highly vulnerable populations, for example, in areas prone to flooding and erosion (referred to above), swimming lessons and day care centres for children in the Mekong Delta during the flood season, and the housing for the poor program (Program 167).

Challenges remain still in achieving the effective participation of the most vulnerable groups in planning and decision-making. The Decision 1002 on CBDRM prioritizes VCA and CBDRM, which should help to ensure that vulnerable groups and remote populations are better included in DRM planning and therefore better served by preparedness, mitigation, and recovery interventions in the upcoming period. Work is also on-going to take into account differing needs and capacities within populations based on factors such as gender, disability and age.

The country also has some way to go before proper, formal and effective social safety nets, welfare systems and insurance services are in place providing particularly the most poor and vulnerable groups in society with opportunities to rebuild their livelihoods and escape the cyclical and inter-related trappings of recurrent disasters, poverty, food insecurity and debt.

e) Engagement and partnerships with non-governmental actors; civil society, private sector, amongst others, have been fostered at all levels

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Are there identified means and sources to convey local and community

experience or traditional knowledge in disaster risk reduction?: Yes

If so, are they being integrated within local, sub-national and national disaster risk reduction plans and activities in a meaningful way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The process of decentralization is on-going in and there is an increasing recognition of the need to include people from the villages/wards and communes and particular groups in more participatory forms of governance and decision-making across all sectors. The Decision 1002 on CBDRM is an example of this movement and emphasizes the need to put in place mechanisms and structures for identifying vulnerable groups, assessing vulnerabilities and capabilities and engaging effectively with communities in the planning, management and implementation (and monitoring) of DRM/DRR measures.

There is still a long way to go with these processes and considerable constraining factors such as standardized tools and approaches, capacity and adequate financial and human resources. There have, however, been success stories and the GoV is now implementing through the new national level policies, legislation and in rolling out the CBDRM program and supporting implementation of the disaster management law.

The term “civil society” is gaining greater currency and there is an increasing level of respect for civil society organizations (CSO) and the potential role they might play in achieving sustainable development. As the number of CSOs continues to grow and they are increasingly strengthened to hold the GoV accountable on development priorities and human rights issues, in the meantime, the long established network of mass organizations continues to perform a kind of quasi-civil society function. There is a significant INGO community active in the field of DRR and climate change and they are organized under a DMWG and a Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) and some are also members of the Joint Advocacy Network Initiative (JANI) - a project supported for the past few years by DIPECHO. Together these create a forum for sharing DRM lessons from the field and a more structured approach towards advocacy and lobbying. Besides, Government has directed to organize annually the national platform on DRR and CCA with the participation of many stakeholders. The Platform also needs to integrate players and institutions from the private sector.

The private sector is involved in DRR in an ad hoc manner. Certain successful and large companies as part of their corporate social responsibility do make donations and contribute to emergency relief operations in the aftermath of disasters – in fact this can be considered the main area of private sector engagement. Other interventions have involved, for example, the re/construction of houses for the poor sponsored by large companies and in partnership with the Fatherland Front. A greater emphasis on public-private partnerships is interested by Government and some important steps has already finish such as signing the memorandum of

understanding between MARD and VCCI and through relevant workshops.

Contextual Drivers of Progress

Levels of Reliance

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

There are several significant economic, social, environmental and legal/institutional contextual drivers:

Viet Nam has been recognized as one of the countries likely to be worst affected by climate change and associated sea level rise (SLR) in terms of the sheer number of people living in coastal and low-lying delta areas. SLR is projected to cause serious challenges due to tidal surges and inundation of vast areas of the Mekong delta in particular. Climate change models forecast different impacts on different hazard zones, with generally more intense storm and precipitation events and larger storms on a more frequent basis, although simultaneously longer dry periods for certain areas such as the Northern Mountains and South Central Coast Region.

At present damage worth an approximate average of 1-1.2% of GDP occur every year. The real costs of disasters are much higher and are likely to further increase due to unexpected disaster occur and process of social-economic development. Therefore the costs of post-disaster reconstruction, the constraints to sustainable economic growth and linkages with climate change are the main contextual drivers for addressing DRR as a national priority.

In addition to the economic drivers are the associated social drivers of a expanding economy with increasing levels of disparity. Disasters disproportionately impact on the poorest and most vulnerable groups in society and they can be considered as a major inhibiting factor in addressing poverty reduction goals. Economic growth has enabled to significantly reduce poverty in proportional and real terms over the last decade or so. There is the malignant threat that achievements in poverty reduction may be undone due to disasters, food insecurity, dependency and a lack of opportunities to escape this cycle or to prevent those that have recently emerged from poverty from slipping back into poverty.

Since 2005, Viet Nam has been a member of AADMER. This is a legally binding document, which commits the GoV to participate providing an effective mechanisms to achieve substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets and to jointly respond to disaster emergencies through concerted national efforts and intensified regional and international co-operation. This should be pursued in the overall context of sustainable development. This therefore

creates a legal/institutional contextual driver for adoption of HFA priorities and goals.

On-going decentralization and emphasis on CBDRM can be seen as the main mechanism going forward for achieving progress towards HFA priorities, e.g. hazard/risk mapping, integrated approaches and the prioritization of vulnerable groups. The newly passed DRM Law is more multi-hazard in its approach and aims to promote a professional disaster management system and to reinforce international commitments to help raise capacity.

Future Outlook

Future Outlook Area 1

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Overall Challenges

Inter-sectoral coordination for the elaboration and implementation of the plans is still an area that requires further work. This is not only important for DRR but more broadly for sustainable socio-economic development. There is need for improved inter-sectoral coordination in order that plans do not conflict, compromise the effectiveness of other plans to reduce vulnerabilities or indeed through their cumulative effect actually serve to increase disaster risk impacts or vulnerabilities. There is also a need for a more coherent, integrated, structured and holistic approach towards DRM planning as opposed to dealing with specific hazards such as floods individually.

All ministries, sectors and provinces developed their 5 year development plans (for the period 2011-2015) and at national sectoral level 10 year master plans were also developed (for the period 2011-2020). This was an important opportunity to ensure that disaster risk considerations were considered and integrated for implementation. It is difficult to conclusively state the extent to which DRR was considered and integrated; a number of provincial SEDPs and sectoral plans show that DRR considerations were included to some extent. However, despite these advances, gaps remain in the implementation of systems.

All 63 provinces and most ministries developed action plans for the implementation of the National DRM Strategy.

Further challenges include the need for sufficient financial and human resources to implement the plans and adequate provisions must be provided here. This should include substantial funding of non-structural measures in particular capacity building programs. The management mechanism still has shortcoming, most of them are part-time staff. The consolidation of the organization structure and human resource after DRM law approved will create the unification and professionalization, including the mainstreaming DRR into planning processes.

The demographic shifts taking place in the country, the focus needs now to shift to more urban/peri-urban areas, where large populations now living and facing a broad range of hazards.

Future Outlook Statement

The legal documents related to the issue of disaster risk reduction are currently scattered in many different places and further consolidation and coordination in implementation is required. The Law on Disaster Prevention and Control is a strong base to strengthen this process.

The implementation of the Government's CBDRM scheme Vietnam will improve the planning process and risk management mainstreamed in the planning, local-level development planning. Through this program activity, awareness is enhanced. The process of information-gathering risks and data on the situation of vulnerability is enhanced. Integrating these approaches to urban planning can also be improved. There is a continued need to promote the construction and strengthening prevention and disaster relief for staff at all levels based on the capacity assessments of the Steering Committee and the leadership FSC undertaken in 2013.

Future Outlook Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

Overall Challenges

Challenges exist in terms of institution building and the implementation of policies, legal documents, projects, programs and activities on DRM. In Viet Nam most disasters are water related, and state management of water resources still overlap and are inconsistent. A lack of close collaboration between DRR and Climate Change works persists. Enhanced information sharing, communication and legal requirements are required to ensure closer integration of these two communities.

The capacity of urban local level human resources for DRR, especially in relevant government departments also requires further development.

The need for step up capacity development efforts has been emphasized throughout this report. The results of the capacity assessment of central and provincial committee for flood and storm control in 2013 clearly outlined the strengths and limitations of the prevention of natural disasters in Viet Nam. The capacity assessment also laid out a framework for capacity development for each level and according to the different themes. This framework now needs to be put into practice. Core programs for capacity development and training materials have been developed but need to be further improved, updated, standardized and applied to the State officials at all levels.

Implementing an effective CBDRM program will require further enhancement of the community capacity to engage effectively in processes. The involvement and opinions of vulnerable groups, social organizations and unions in the decision-making process should be prioritized, particularly as efforts continue to integrate DRM into sectoral planning and socio-economic development policies.

Data on vulnerability and risks to disasters is not yet consolidated; data is scattered across ministries, central and local authorities and is often inconsistent or incomplete. Efforts to consolidate and utilize disaster data should be stepped up.

The Vietnamese Government has implemented and reviewed the first 5 years of the implementation of the national strategy to 2020, and recommendations have already been made, but at many different levels. A recalculation of resources to execute the strategy and national action plan is required to guide efforts as is stepped up advocacy to raise awareness and capacity to execute strategy.

The Law on Disaster Prevention and Control (2013) stipulates that disaster prevention should have a dedicated agency. However, the process of formation these new structures from central to local level and the coordination between the ministries working in the area of DRR under the new law is not yet clear. There need to provide and mobilize financial resources to implement all of these actions and to enhance cooperation and avoid duplication in the implementation of DRR and climate change adaptation actions at the Ministry and the provincial level is also clear.

Future Outlook Statement

Viet Nam's new Disaster Prevention and Control Law (2013) aims to strengthen institutional structures and coordination mechanisms with the intention being to streamline CCA and DRR. It also proposes a new Department for Disaster Prevention and Control within MARD. This will assist considerably with institutional coordination, in ensuring that DRR considerations are better mainstreamed and potentially facilitate inter-sectoral planning and integrated approaches to DRM planning. Such an office would help also to identify specific financial resources for DRR and how budget allocations may be broken down. It will also assist in determining exact budgets for different types of measures (structural and non-structural) and activities (e.g. awareness raising, construction, capacity building, monitoring, etc).

The promotion of National Platform activities for DRR and CCA with participation of multi-stakeholder is under the auspices of the National Climate Change Committee. It will make bring together relevant government agencies and civil society organizations including the private sector to facilitate policy dialogue, the development of strategic approaches, stakeholder coordination, aid harmonization and efficient allocation of financial resources, lesson sharing and improved performance of stakeholder institutions overall.

Following the Decision on CBDRM, the CBDRM Program needs to be implemented in 6000 communes according to proposed objective and plans to strengthen capacity of community. Unified tools for data collection, storage, monitoring, evaluation and information sharing now need to be rolled out across the country.

The informal coordination networks of the DMWG, CCWG, JANI, CBDRM Technical Working Group and the UN DRMT need to find ways to ensure better coherence and complementary and ensure that activity plans are feasible and realistic.

Future Outlook Area 3

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Overall Challenges

Both inside and outside Government stakeholders are beginning to consider the systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into emergency preparedness, response and recovery. The increased occurrence, intensity and severity of disasters, combined with a rapidly expanding population and economic growth, with cities and towns particularly with more physical assets of greater economic value, has meant that the costs of post-disaster response, recovery and reconstruction are increasing in real terms. A challenge lies in being able to mobilize financial resources and quickly in order that the economy remains on track and that the country is able to grow and develop sustainably.

Links between response and early recovery are strengthening and the UNDP (with its mandate for early recovery under the IASC Cluster System) has promoted the development of an early recovery network and has been active in advocacy to integrate early recovery into all sectors in the early aftermath of a disaster response planning.

At present, in the aftermath of a disaster, the GoV at national and provincial levels maintains a contingency allocation of 2-5% of their respective budgets and the national reserve can be called upon in extreme circumstances. This is typically sufficient for emergency response operations but there are large funding gaps for recovery and reconstruction, meaning that there are significant delays in reconstruction activities of potentially in the period of rebuilt. It also means there is limited social protection and revitalization of lost livelihoods and small/medium sized industries for disaster affected communities and enterprises.

There is a limited range of insurance products available for poor rural or urban communities and there is not a culture of using insurance products. There is considerable need for the development of stronger public-private partnerships in this area in order to better support the recovery and reconstruction of communities in the

aftermath of a disaster.

There is no legal framework at present for post-disaster reconstruction and there is weak enforcement of existing building codes to ensure the implementation of international good practice and principles of 'build back better'. Additionally, with limited funds for post-disaster reconstruction, decisions are usually based on a short term planning horizon and aim spread the available financial resources there are. This approach favors reconstruction of more buildings or infrastructure but at the detriment of not adhering to build back better guidelines for hazard-proofing. There is limited awareness of such guidelines and standards and even with legislation and guidelines in place, the monitoring and enforcement of regulations and standards would present considerable challenges for the relevant agencies (including further investment).

There are generally insufficient resources for post-disaster livelihood recovery programs but where they do exist there is a need to improve the level of consultation with affected communities on appropriate recovery options; gender issues are also need to be better addressed in response, recovery and reconstruction.

Future Outlook Statement

Implementation of national policy will require further investments of resources to ensure that disaster affected communities are able to 'build back better'. A more structured approach to post-disaster recovery and reconstruction is also required for the future, which will necessarily have to include a fairly substantial reform to the way in which post-disaster recovery and reconstruction is currently financed. The GoV is presently researching and considering various risk financing options in order to allow for a more flexible a model, financial mechanism which will allow greater and quicker access to more funds which can be allocated to post-disaster recovery and reconstruction. With potentially greater funds available this should enable the GoV to be more strategic about recovery and reconstruction with a longer term vision.

Improved tools for conducting damage and needs assessments (recently reviewed in the aftermath of disasters) will assist greatly in determining more accurately the required costs for recovery and reconstruction. These tools will also include standardized cost norms. This in turn should allow for a more efficient allocation of post-disaster recovery and reconstruction funds in the future.

Ancillary legislation, guidelines, standards and regulations for post-disaster recovery within the context of each disaster zone is also being developed. The MoC has already approved and disseminated a number of hazard-proof construction models to the provinces but further follow-up in this regard is a priority.

Public-private partnerships are required in the future to relieve some of the burden of post-disaster recovery and reconstruction costs and this can be expected to be an

important area for further exploration in the near future and certainly it would be an issue for any multi-stakeholder National Platform that may be established.

Stakeholders

Organizations, departments, and institutions that have contributed to the report

Organization	Organization type	Focal Point
Department of Meteorology, Hydrology and Climate Change Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Governments	Deputy Director General
National Centre for Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting	Governments	Senior Officers
Industrial Safety Techniques and Environment Agency Ministry of Industry and Trade	Governments	Director General
Office of Ministry of Health	Governments	Chief of the Ministry Office
Department of Science, Technology and Environment Ministry of Education and Training	Governments	Deputy Director General
Department of Science and Technology Ministry of Science and Technology	Governments	Director General
Department of Cooperatives and Rural Development Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Governments	Director General
Department for Dyke Management, Flood & Storm Control Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Governments	Director General
Ministry of Construction	Governments	Deputy Minister
Department of ASEAN Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Governments	Senior Officers
Ministry of Transport	Governments	Senior Officers
Ministry of Labor, Invalids, & Social Affairs	Governments	Senior Officers