Preparedness for Effective Response (PER)
NS Capacity Enhancement

2018
RRI lesson learned
How do we enhance local and national preparedness for response?

"it is a cyclical approach for a National Society to systematically assess, analyze and prioritize the strengths and gaps of its response system. Through this process, the NS develops a roadmap alongside partners that when implemented can strengthen its response capacity to small and medium scale disasters"
ASSESSING A
NS RESPONSE
SYSTEM?
### Emergency Operations Centre

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>EOC is activated according to procedures, relevant staff participates and</td>
<td>mechanisms exist to inform others.</td>
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<td>EOC SOPs are approved, current and consistent with other NS documents and</td>
<td>are followed in a response.</td>
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<td>Information is inputted, updated, validated and analyzed to produce</td>
<td>periodic and standardised reports.</td>
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<td>NS has an alternative location if the EOC space is not accessible.</td>
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<td>NS has legal access and use of designated emergency frequencies which</td>
<td>link with other stakeholders in response.</td>
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<td>Operational period do not exceed 12 hours per shift per staff while EOC</td>
<td>maintains 24 hours service.</td>
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<td>Strategic decisions are assigned according to procedures and implemented</td>
<td>by the relevant units.</td>
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<td>Strategic decisions are made based on the situational analysis and</td>
<td>identified gaps.</td>
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<td>The EOC and its equipment are maintained in functional working order.</td>
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<td>The EOC has the means of communication and back-ups (phone/radio or other</td>
<td>means) and is operated by qualified persons.</td>
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<td>The facilities of the EOC are self-sufficient in at least supply of electric</td>
<td>power, water and telecommunications.</td>
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## Communication in Emergencies

| An official spokesperson is designated in an emergency. |
| Communications focal points are identified and trained at headquarter and branch level. |
| External communication plan is available and implemented, and NS provides information to public on emergency situation within 24 hours. |
| **Key messages and public awareness messages in an emergency are developed and shared with staff regularly.** |
| NS coordinates with IFRC/ICRC on joint communication (SMCC). |
| NS has capacity to generate evidence-based results/messages to advocate to decision makers and communities |
| NS has capacity to track media and social media and react accordingly |
| NS uses public and social media to draw attention to unmet needs. |
| Standard templates for communication are available. |
HOW DO WE ENHANCE A NS RESPONSE SYSTEM?
NS Response system

Operational Capacity

Policy, Strategy and Standards

Analysis and Planning

Coordination

Operations Support
Self-Assessment (WPNS) | Simulation Exercise (DRCE) | Operational (i.e. Real-Time) | Post-Operational

Timor Leste RC | Nepal RC Flood Simulation | Afghanistan RC Flooding and conflict Response | Myanmar RC Cyclone Response

Assess | Analyse and Prioritize | Work Plan | Implementation
Analysis of areas to enhance

Identify additional key findings and recommendations from other sources of information, e.g. operational reviews and organizational assessments (OCAC) to validate
Prioritization of areas to enhance

- Establish NS common understanding of strengths and weaknesses
- Analyzing and propose actions
- Understanding Root Causes of Gaps
Work plan development by the National Society

Preparedness for Response PLAN

Goal of delivering quality services to the most vulnerable
Work plan development by National Society

PRC Preparedness for Response PLAN

- Evidence-based
- Benchmarked against global standards
- One plan
- Multi-funding
Why was the PER approach developed?

• All NS Have a humanitarian assistance mandate (article 4.3)
• All NS have an auxiliary role with their public authorities
• All NS have signed on to the Principles and Rules for RCRC Humanitarian Assistance (2013)

Overall drive began from the need for NS to identify and document the response capacity gaps at local and national levels

To develop a plan to encourage support to enhance those weaknesses

To enhance coordination among partners to support the NS

To increase staff understanding of response as a system
Highlight:

• NS-led revision of preparedness work plan based on identified gaps
• Plan shared with partners to identify new funding and support for preparedness activities
• Through the review the NS tested and revised their newly developed SOPs and emergency response ToRs; developed a decision-making flow-chart; and developed EOC SoPs
Philippines RC Operational 2017

Highlights:
• Assessment conducted on recent operation and workplan to be developed
• NS trained in assessment methodologies to replicate the process at branch levels, and for future national internal simulations
• Findings will be shared with partners to support a preparedness for response work plan - value of evidence based assessment, and recognized against a globally agreed upon standard.
Comments from National Societies on the PER process

Response time was significantly reduced in recent emergencies.

‘The evaluation results show the true capacity of the NS in disaster response.’

‘It validates our needs within a plan. It allowed for informed decision-making for planning’

‘Helpful to look at the broader thinking, including all the relevant departments respectively’

‘The NS position in the national disaster system was strengthened.’

‘NS understanding of process they are committing to is critical’

“Change is a very big word”
How PER supports localization agenda: investing in preparedness for response

- Provides NS with information to build staff understanding of response as a system made of essential DM components and support systems, processes and capacities

- Allows NS to lead its development based on identified gaps according to globally agreed upon standards

- Aims to strengthen an effective response from national to branches/volunteers and communities/village volunteers

- Reinforces coordination of partnerships and funding support to a NS strategic plan

- Provides evidence-based method to showcase enhanced local/national response capacity over time and encourage peer sharing of best practices

- Approach is multi-sectorial and links with other key RCRC approaches i.e. OCAC, FbF
Where is the process going...

- Increased flexibility of the approach – application within slow onset, e.g. drought and political unrest/crisis through assessments real-time

- Regional cooperation: CRC – IFRC – Regional – National trainings to facilitate process

- Greater focus on peer-to-peer support in sharing best practices and providing technical support to each other at national and regional levels

- Interest to expand beyond RC and include national authorities

- Replicate process at branch/community levels