

Making the HFA2 Work

A SOUTH ASIA ROUND TABLE

October 15, 2014

Hotel Summit
Kathmandu, Nepal

A round table discussion on Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA 2) has been organized jointly by IDS Nepal, CDKN, LEAD Pakistan, ODI and AIDMI on October 15, 2014 in Hotel Summit, Kupandole, Lalitpur Nepal. The international partners ODI, AIDMI and LEAD have supported IDS Nepal to organize the roundtable discussions. About 24 Experts and dignitaries were participated in the round table discussion. In this discussion, Joint secretary of Nepal government, professors of universities, representatives of different government ministries and officials of CDKN, ODI, AIDMI, LEAD Pakistan actively participated with Chief Guest of the program was Mr. Govinda Nepal, Member of NPC, Nepal.



The roundtable started after registration of all participants and dignitaries at 9:15 in the Kiran Hall of Hotel Summit, Kupandol, Lalitpur, Nepal. **Mr. Hammad Raza**, GM of LEAD Pakistan facilitated the opening session. **Ms. Prabha Pokhrel**, Chairperson of IDS Nepal made a welcome speech and highlighted the implications and diversified field of disaster (earthquake, flood, landslide, etc) risk in Nepal. Ms. Pokhrel concluded her remarks welcoming and wishing the success of this program.



Prof. Dr. Govinda Nepal, Member, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal inaugurated the program and stated that the impacts and implications of disaster are very severe due to geographical condition of Nepal. He further emphasizes that floods in Terai region and landslide and earthquake in hilly region have devastating effects annually with high economic loss of the country. He remembered the JURE landslide in Sindhupalchok, Nepal occurred in

2nd August 2014 causing direct initial cost of around NRs 15 billion.

Dr. Nepal emphasizes the 13th National Plan which has aimed to mainstreaming disaster in planning process, participation of civil society, community and private sector for better preparedness. He was delighted with the implementation of risk reduction program despite of barriers (resources, capacity, information and technology) faced by the country. Due to topography of Nepal, the vulnerability of disasters varies according to the region and there is a need of multi-dimensional options for deeper understanding and its adaptation options to make resilient country. The vulnerability further accelerated by climate change, poverty, lack of awareness and information and technologies.



Disasters are the trans-boundary issues which need regional as well as global cooperation and coordination on information sharing, technology transformation, resource sharing and work together to cope with devastating effects of disaster. He expected that HFA 2 discussion will identify the issues like: make HFA 2 as South Asian perspective, ensure further collaboration in disaster risk management, acts as a global agenda and help in the implementation of HFA 2 plan.

The roundtable discussion was divided into two sessions:

Session 1: Informing the Global Discourse on the HFA 2 from a South Asian perspective

Session 2: National Preparation for Implementation of HFA 2

In the first session, nine different topics were presented in a pre-zero draft:

1. Monitoring & Accountability
2. Interface with Climate Change
3. Sustainable Development Goals

4. Conflict and Fragile States
5. Stakeholders and Leadership
6. Vulnerability and Inclusion
7. Science and Environment
8. Inclusion of Environmental Issues
9. Finance

After the presentation of zero-draft, a live Group Work and Group Discussions held in the roundtable. In this session; the participants were divided in 3 groups and each group has to discuss on their respective areas and to provide suggestions and feedback as recommendations on it.



The second session 'National Preparation for Implementation of HFA 2' was focused on Challenges and Opportunities to implement HFA 2 in action. It was country wise sharing and participants from individual country shared their views.

Press Meet:

At lunch time, we had a press meet with Nepali media where Dr. Devkota, Mr. M. Bhatt, Mr. H. Raza, Ms. Amy Kirbyshire and Mr. Aditya Bahadur had present from organizers



and Nepali press was briefed about the purpose and mission of workshop. The press covered in television and national newspaper which can be seen in www.setopati.com and it is also uploaded in www.facebook.com/integrateddevelopmentsocietynepal

Concluding Session

Joint Secretary of GoN, **Mr. Purushottam Ghimire** addressed the concluding session. He made emphasis

on DRR as high priority sector and incorporated in plan, policy and programs of GoN. In 2010-13 plans, government has focused on the Natural Disaster Management for the sustainable development. Furthermore government has emphasized on the local body, private sectors, local NGOs, CBOs for the effective implementation and sustainability of the project.



Furthermore he also focused on the challenges and opportunities faced by the government, the major challenges and opportunities are listed below:

- Gap in the information sharing
- Capacity enhancement and building in the different sectors like in institution, stakeholders, local people, etc
- Duplication of the work related to the disaster and climate change
- Integrated implementation gap in DRR and Climate change.

After the concluding remarks of Joint Secy. Mr. Ghimire, **Mr. Mihir Bhatt** (AIDMI) thanked all participants, experts and dignitaries adding that the outcome of this roundtable will bring to Geneva as sharp notes on November 2014. He emphasizes on economic growth which is the key to trigger the disaster and the investment on the DRR is must and regular to conserve biodiversity and reduce the vulnerability for better livelihood of the people. In this field the employment opportunities is high and more manpower is needed for reducing disaster risk. He highlights on decentralized approach for implementation of the program, incorporating multi-stakeholders and local community with diverse strategies of DRR.



For further information:

Integrated Development Society Nepal (IDS Nepal)
Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 00977 – 1 – 4427329, 4421739
Email: idsnepal@wlink.com.np
Website: www.idsnepal.org