



LESOTHO PRESENTATION

SADC DRR PROJECT INCEPTION WORKSHOP

Emperors Palace, JHB, RSA

21 January, 2020



PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Legislative Frameworks
- Institutional Arrangements
- Funding Arrangement
- Challenges
- Assistance required

POLICIES & LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

- **Disaster Management Act of 1997 (under review)**
- - The Act provides the legal backing for the implementation of all requirements of disaster management
- - The Act establishes the disaster management structure and makes provision for the planning and implementation of various components of disaster management, namely mitigation, preparedness, response and relief, post-disaster recovery and review.

LEGAL FRAMEWORKS cont...

- **NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN (1996)** provides a comprehensive framework for disaster management with the principal objective of improving national capacity for disaster mitigation, preparedness, responses and recovery.
- **DISASTER MANAGEMENT MANUAL (1996)** provides detailed descriptions of the function, powers and responsibilities of the various elements of the disaster management organisation.

LEGAL FRAMEWORKS cont..

- **DISASTER RISK REDUCTION POLICY 2011**
- provides guidelines for integration of disaster risk reduction into all development and social sectors,
- reinforces ongoing efforts and programmes within various sectors that are promoting disaster risk reduction.
- provides a framework for review of the Disaster Management Act 1997 promotes the implementation of all laws, regulations, policies and programmes that will advance disaster risk reduction at national and local government and community levels..

LEGAL FRAMEWORKS cont..

- National Strategic Resilience Framework 2019
- National Early Warning-Early Action Plan (under development)
- Multi-Hazard Early Warning System Manual (under development)
- National Climate Change Policy 2017 and Strategy
- Lesotho Housing Policy 2019
- Lesotho Action Plan for Health Security 2019



INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

- **The heart of the DRM system is the Disaster Management Authority (DMA)** placed in the Office of the Prime Minister.

Main objective of DMA is to reduce through concerted multi-sectoral action the loss of life, property damage, social and economic disruption caused by natural and man-made hazards.

- Elements coordinated through National DMA
 - Policy and Governance,
 - Risk Assessment and mapping
 - Mitigation , Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Rehabilitation
 - Public Awareness and Education
 - Post Impact Evaluation



INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS CONT..

- **National Emergency Relief Task Force** – gets activated when there is an Emergency – main role is to mobilise resources requirements.
- **At the national level the Board of Directors** composed of Principal Secretaries of key ministries and 3 representative of NGOs - responsible for policy direction



INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS CONT..

- **Multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary structures** exist at central, district and community levels for coordination and implementation of disaster management activities
- At national level:
 - Health and Nutrition, Logistics, Protection ,Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), Agriculture and food Security

At district level: District Disaster Management Team

At community level: Village Disaster Management Team



INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS CONT..

- **DMA-National Early Warning Unit (also a home for Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee)**
 - Conducts assessments to monitor disaster risk.
 - Provides regular early warning information
- Aviation Search and Rescue Committee



FUNDING

- Legally established Disaster Management Fund - Fully funded by government
- Development Partners participate in DRR programmes
- Negotiations with ARC agency and World Bank group on-going



Shortcomings

- The existing legal framework for DRR is not adequately implemented.
- Disaster Management in Lesotho established by the Act of Parliament but the **most** under resourced mandate. Hence, more dependency on humanitarian assistance and external assistance for implementation of DRM activities.
- Private Sector has not been actively involved.
- No designated DRR Sectoral focal point



Shortcomings

- The emergency management structures, roles and responsibilities and coordination arrangements are clearly defined in the legal and institutional frameworks, but in practical terms the implementation of these is weak
 - Silo mentality (information sharing is a problem, consistent situation reports)
 - Inconsistence and poor Attendance
 - Non adherence to legal frameworks
- An Emergency Operations Centre is inadequately equipped
- Mainstreaming Gender into DRR activities needs further strengthening
- Fund disbursement still follow government procedures, during emergency response



ASSISTANCE REQUIRED FROM SADC

- Identification of countries with best practices and Facilitation of Peer learning process (study tour, attachment etc.)
- Assist in mobilisation of funds to carry out peer learning process
- Assist in developing guidelines for mainstreaming of DRR into sectoral development plans and programmes
- Advocate for DRR mainstreaming at the Ministerial Platforms



THE END



**THANK YOU
OBRIGADO
MERCI
KEA LEBOHA**