



BEFORE SUNSET

Partners for Resilience
Inputs to RA10121 Sunset Review



Inputs to the On-Going Sunset Review of RA 10121

This document is a compilation of various inputs to the on-going Sunset Review of Republic Act 10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010.

Our Value Position

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- The *Partners for Resilience* (PfR) alliance has been working since 2011 to reduce the impact of natural hazards on vulnerable people in nine countries globally by the Netherlands Red Cross, CARE Nederland, Cordaid, the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and Wetlands International and our many local partners.
- In the Philippines, PfR is being implemented by the Philippine Red Cross, Assistance and Cooperation for Community Resilience and Development (ACCORD), Agri-Aqua Development Coalition (AADC), Cordillera Disaster Response and Development Services (CorDisRDS) and Corporate Network for Disaster Response (CNDR) in at least 44 barangays across 8 municipalities and 2 cities; in 4 provinces; in 3 regions. Technical support is also being provided by the IIRR, Wetlands International and the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre.
- The PfR approach, methodology and tools are being applied by implementing partners in other programming initiatives including relief and recovery projects in Yolanda-affected areas, and disaster risk reduction initiatives in other high-risk areas in the country.
- We are one with the national government and with all our partner communities and LGUs in advancing the national and local DRRM strategy. We are prepared to assist the governing agencies in developing the most appropriate strategy for the country. Together with all those who work for national and community-level resilience, including the community members themselves, we aim that this upcoming review will establish the long-term strategy for an integrated DRR in the Philippines.

SUCCESSSES OF RA 10121

- It helped strengthen the country's DRRM system and provide a national DRRM framework and institutionalize the national DRRM plan
- It has guided the country's paradigm shift from being reactive towards pro-active approaches and strategies in addressing disaster and climate risks
- It has spurred local government units to better prepare for emergencies and steered them towards a course that equitably gives importance to response, rehabilitation and recovery, preparedness, and mitigation and prevention.

KEY PROPOSITIONS

1. Integrate climate information and ecosystem approaches in disaster risk reduction to ensure Climate-Smart and Ecosystem-Smart DRR towards community resilience.
2. Underscore a risk-centered approach in all types of hazards from the national to local levels as well as within and across all sectors.
3. Undertake a comprehensive risk assessment and planning that utilizes landscape/ridge-to-reef approach.
4. Recognizing the evolving risk patterns due to various factors including climate change, institutionalize the conduct of regular risk assessments.
5. Emphasize the role of vulnerable sectors such as persons with disabilities, women, elderly, and youth as agents of change.
6. Recognise the role and contribution of CSOs at all levels and further define and increase their level of participation and engagement in DRRM.
7. Strengthen early warning systems across different timescales because extreme climate events are becoming more common and risk patterns are changing unpredictably.
8. Enhance partnerships with scientific, technological, academe, private sector and CSO groups, and recognize their contribution and value added in the establishment of training institutes.
9. Further strengthen DRRM capacity through institutional mechanisms.
10. Recognize the value of volunteerism and institutionalize partnerships with them at all levels.
11. Institutionalize a mandatory inclusion of DRRM into pre and primary school curricula.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTED TEXTS

AREAS OF CONCERN	SPECIFIC SECTIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTED TEXT
<p>I. Climate and Ecosystem-Smart Disaster Risk Reduction</p>	<p>Section 2. Declaration of Policy</p>	<p><u>Suggested Text</u></p> <p>(d) Adopt a disaster risk reduction and management approach that is holistic, comprehensive, integrated <i>or climate-smart and ecosystem-smart</i> and proactive in lessening the socio-economic and environmental impacts of disasters, including climate change, and promote the involvement and participation of all sectors and all stakeholders concerned at all levels, especially the local community.</p>
	<p>Section 3. Definition of Terms</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> Include CCA and EMR in the Definition of Terms</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> Replace Section 3 a.) adaptation with: Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) -- the adaptation of natural and man-made systems to the actual or expected effects of climate change</p> <p>Include: Ecosystem Management and Restoration (EMR) -- an integrated process to conserve and improve ecosystem health that sustains ecosystem services for human well-being and “the process to help bring back the natural health of a degraded ecosystem.</p>
	<p>Section 6. Powers and Functions of the NDRRMC</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> It should be a part of the NDRRMC and LDRRMC’s responsibility to ensure the integration of CCA and EMR in DRR and ensure that all efforts are harmonized and linked with each other.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> Ensure the integration of the three concepts – DRR, CCA, and EMR – in all plans, policies, projects, programs, and activities.</p>

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I. Climate and Ecosystem-Smart Disaster Risk Reduction	Section 9. Powers and Functions of OCD	<p><u>Recommendation</u> We strongly support mainstreaming DRR, CCA and EMR in local development plans. We propose that both DRRM plan and LCCAP should be mainstreamed into the rationalized planning system of LGUs.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> (e) Review and evaluate the synergy of Local DRRM Plans and the Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAP). Ensure that disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and ecosystem management restoration are mainstreamed into the local Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) and the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), and that LDRRMPs and LCCAPs are logical derivatives of CDPs and CLUPs.</p>
II. Risk-centered approach in all types of hazards at all levels as well as within and across all sectors	Section 4. Scope	<p><u>Recommendation</u> To ensure consistency in language and alignment with the newly adopted Sendai Framework for DRR, emphasize the risk-centered approach in all types of hazards at all levels and across all sectors</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> This Act provides for the development of policies and plans and the implementation of actions and measures pertaining to all aspects of DRRM, including good governance, risk assessment and early warning, knowledge building, awareness raising, reducing underlying risk-factors and preparedness for effective response and early recovery. It is anchored on a risk-centered approach in small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or human-made hazards as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks and aim to guide the multi-hazard management or disaster risk in development at all levels as well as within and across all sectors.</p>
III. Persons with Disabilities	Section 3. Definition of Terms	<p><u>Recommendation</u> Use definitions and terminologies consistent with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> (oo) “Vulnerable and Marginalised Groups”- those that face higher exposure to disaster risk and poverty, including, but not limited to women, children, elderly, persons with disabilities, and ethnic minorities.</p>

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III. Persons with Disabilities	Section 5. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council Section 11. Organization at the Local Government Level	<u>Recommendation</u> Inclusion of the most vulnerable sectors, specifically the persons with disability can also be considered at all levels of DRRMCs. Persons with disabilities are among those who are at-risk before, during, and after emergencies, thus we support the recommendations of including representations from this sector. <u>Suggested Text</u> The representatives from the CSOs and the private sector shall be selected from among their respective ranks based on an inclusive criteria and mechanisms that ensure adequate representation from the vulnerable and marginalized groups, to be set for this purpose by the National Council.
IV. More defined and increased participation of CSOs	Section 5. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council	<u>Recommendation</u> In the implementing rules and regulations or related documents of the NDRRMC, include more defined conditions and criteria for CSO participation at the national, regional, provincial, municipal and barangay level DRRMCs. It should also include clearer provisions on the CSOs' roles as council members in various levels in order to maximize their participation in DRRMCs. Also add a section to define the CSO's roles and responsibilities and increased participation in DRRMCs. <u>Suggested Text</u> For Section 5, 34 RA 10121 and Rule 3 hh of IRR: At least 4 accredited CSO members
	Rule 21. On Annual Report	<u>Recommendation</u> Member agencies of DRRMCs should ensure that CSOs are involved in the process of developing their annual reports, which will then be consolidated by the OCD.

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<p>V. Early Warning Systems for No Regrets Actions</p>	<p>Section 6 Powers and Functions of the NDRRMC</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> Early warning systems should ensure that early no regrets actions are done based on climate forecasts for days, months and years into the future to inform risk reduction and preparedness activities. This leads to decreased levels of vulnerability and enables quicker response, to ultimately save lives and livelihoods.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text:</u> (e) Establish a national early warning and emergency alert system and forecast based disaster preparedness and response actions across different timescales to provide accurate and timely advice to national and/or local DRRM Offices and emergency response organizations and to the general public through diverse mass media (e.g., digital and analog broadcast, cable, satellite television and radio), wireless and landline communications, <i>and social media</i>.</p>
<p>VI. Training Institutes</p>	<p>Section 9. Powers and Functions of the OCD</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> Maximize CSO’s long experience in DRR capacity building and public awareness programs and use them in lieu of or to complement training institutes</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> (i) Establish DRRM Training Institutes in such suitable location as may be deemed appropriate to train public and private individuals, both local and national, in such subject as DRRM among others. The Institute shall consolidate and prepare training materials and publications of DRRM books and manuals to assist DRRM workers in the planning and implementation of this program and projects. The Institute shall maximize the already existing training programs of established CSOs, and develop an accreditation process to include their effective materials and approaches, including their skilled trainers.</p> <p>The Institute shall conduct research programs to upgrade knowledge and skills and document good practices on DRRM in partnership with key CSO groups, academe, scientific institutions, and similar organizations. These good practices can be replicated and/or sources of customized approaches towards resilience building.</p> <p>The Institute is also mandated to conduct periodic awareness and education programs to accommodate new elective officials and members of the LDRRMCs.</p>

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<p>VI. Training Institutes</p>	<p>Rule 8 of IRR. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Training Institutes</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> DRRMOs should maintain a roster of local CSOs that have the capacity to support or supplement the NDRRM Training Institutes. CSOs who wish to participate in capacity building undertakings can register with DRRMCs so they can be included in the roster. DRRMCs can refer to this roster to tap CSO involvement especially in areas where there is high need.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> In addition to Section 2: _</p> <p>Using the accreditation criteria set by the NDRRMC, LDRRMCs can also accredit and maintain a roster of local CSOs that have the capacity to support or supplement the NDRRM Training Institutes</p>
<p>VII. Strengthening DRRM capacities at the local level</p>	<p>Section 11. Organization at the Local Government Level</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> Explicitly include the representation of <i>sangguniang barangay/bayan/panlalawigan</i> members or councillors in the DRRMC as local legislative body.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> To be inserted after (3) The Head of LDRRMO: (4) Representative from the local sanggunian, member</p>
<p>VIII. Conduct of Annual Risk Assessments</p>	<p>Section 12. Local DRRM Office</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> To promote a proactive DRR and CCA approach, risk assessments, which are the primary source of information for the succeeding documents and steps in the DRR process, should be done annually.</p> <p>The dynamic change in hazard patterns due to climate change make hazards of today less predictable. Planning the risk reduction and mitigation actions should therefore take into consideration the changing risks due to climate change.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> The LDRRMO shall take into consideration the change in hazard patterns brought on by climate change.</p> <p>The LDRRMO shall make annual risk assessments in order to make sure that a proactive approach is taken when planning related activities and drafting related documents.</p>

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<p>IX. DRR into Primary School Curricula</p>	<p>Section 14. Integration of DRR into School Curricula and SK Program and Mandatory Training for the Public Sector Employees</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> Prioritize primary/elementary schools’ access to DRR, CCA, and EMR education because only 60.5% of 94% of those who start elementary education make it to high school. Mainstreaming DRR, CCA, and EMR in primary/elementary school curriculum must be required to ensure that children at young age are taught with lessons on resilience, etc. Starting young will certainly contribute to cultivating a culture of resilience.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> Insert in the first paragraph: The DepEd ... shall integrate disaster risk reduction and management education in the school curricula of basic, secondary, and tertiary education...</p>
<p>X. Forecast and science-based DRRM</p>	<p>Section 16. Declaration of State of Calamity</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> In the true essence of DRRM, the declaration of a state of calamity is based on solid risk assessments on the ground and continuing use of science in identifying areas, people, livelihoods, etc. most at risk. It should therefore underscore that imminent state of calamity of areas that will be highly affected based on scientific information can be identified early on. Therefore, the policy should allow for the declaration of imminent state of calamities based on sound risk assessment and scientific information.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> The National Council shall recommend to the President of the Philippines the declaration of a cluster of barangays, municipalities, cities, provinces and regions under a state of calamity and the lifting thereof based on the criteria set by the National Council. The President’s declaration may warrant international humanitarian assistance as deemed necessary.</p> <p>The declaration and lifting of the state of calamity may also be issued by the local sanggunian, upon the recommendation of the LDRRMC, based on the results of the damage assessment and needs analyses.</p> <p>Relatedly, an imminent state of calamity may be declared on areas most at risk from a hazard (usually typhoons, flooding, storm surge, tsunamis, volcanic eruption) based on sound risk assessment and scientific (and climate) information and forecast provided they meet the required number of population and related resources that will be affected based on the pre-disaster risk assessment.</p>

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<p>X. Forecast and science-based DRRM</p>	<p>Section 21. Local DRRM Fund (LDRRMF)</p>	<p><u>Recommendation</u> Low-income and high-risk communities should receive more financial support from the national government in order to significantly reduce the risks being faced by these communities. The 5% cap on the LDRRMF puts low-income and high-risk communities at a disadvantage.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> An additional funding mechanism shall be set to allow supplementary financial support to low-income local government units that are facing very high levels of risk. DBM work with the OCD in setting up this equitable funding mechanisms that addresses the special needs poor and high-risk local government units.</p> <p><u>Recommendation</u> Related to the above, the use of the 30% QRF should be allowed based on the declaration of an imminent state of calamity based on science and forecast information ad sound risk assessments.</p> <p><u>Suggested Text</u> **insert after 2nd paragraph The use of the 30% QRF should be allowed based on the declaration of an imminent state of calamity based on science and forecast information ad sound risk assessments.</p>

Other comments:

1. For Section 19. Prohibited Acts

Include in the effects of dereliction of duty the following: “damage to or spoilage of aid commodities”

Suggested Text:

Dereliction of duties which leads to destruction, loss of lives, critical damage of facilities, damage to or spoilage of aid commodities, and misuse of fundsFor the NDRRMC structure (Section 5):

2. We have a discussion on including resilience as one of the areas of concern. However, we might need to advocate for resilience first (e.g. discussions, etc.) to build the case for its inclusion in the law.

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