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# Canada

## National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2009-2011) - interim

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## Outcomes for 2007-2009

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### 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.*

#### **Outcomes:**

The Government of Canada continues to build on the progress made in the last reporting cycle through the comprehensive implementation of the Emergency Management Act, and supporting policies, programs, strategies and action plans.

Public Safety Canada continues to demonstrate domestic leadership in the actualization of comprehensive domestic emergency management in Canada, which emphasizes the prevention and mitigation of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from disasters. Through close cooperation among federal institutions, provincial and territorial governments, civil society and non-governmental organizations, progress has been made in increasing the resilience of Canadian society.

Internationally, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and other partner departments continue to encourage the international community to focus on bolstering and promoting existing international, regional, national and community efforts to prepare for hazards. Canada advocates for the integration of risk considerations into long-term sustainable development and poverty reduction strategies. Canada has been particularly active in supporting disaster risk reduction initiatives in the Americas and the Caribbean region.

### 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.*

#### **Outcomes:**

In Canada, the majority of disasters are local in nature and are managed at the municipal\* or the provincial/territorial levels. As the magnitude of disaster risks increase the Government of Canada may become increasingly involved in supporting resilience capacity building initiatives, including prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery programs.

Through shared responsibility for disasters across all levels of government in Canada, hazard resilience is built through coordinated, multi-tiered action. Canada benefits from a well developed government and non-governmental emergency management sector which is instrumental in the continuous strengthening of resilience capacity at all levels.

Internationally, Canada promotes and supports DRR initiatives within existing multilateral and regional institutions such as the UN system, the Organization for American States, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and international financial institutions such as the World Bank. Canada supports activities that aim to enhance institutional capacity at all levels and is particularly focused on DRR activities in the Americas and Caribbean region.

\*'Municipalities' includes any municipality-like governance structure that provides services at the local level - could include First Nations, Inuit and Northern communities.

## 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.*

### **Outcomes:**

In recognition of the importance of prevention and mitigation in advance of, and in the recovery from, disasters the Government of Canada has revised a number of programs to ensure that support is available to communities for risk reductions initiatives.

Internationally, where possible Canada promotes the integration of DRR approaches in emergency preparedness activities. For instance, DFAIT, through the Global Peace and Security Fund, is providing support to risk reduction approaches through a series of stabilization and reconstruction projects in Haiti following the January 2010 earthquake in that country. These include:

First Aid Instructor Training in Haiti (FAITH), \$1.3 million, St. John Ambulance – This project aims to establish a training program comprised of Basic First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) that will be made available to every member of the PNH. Additionally, senior and middle HNP management will learn vital skills in Emergency Preparedness in order to respond to catastrophic events. (Ongoing project)

HNP Early Recovery Equipment Project, \$4.8 million, Canadian Commercial Corporation – Canada will donate vehicles and equipment to the Haitian National Police to ensure they are able to conduct patrols, document crimes, arrest criminals and respond to emergencies including natural disasters. (Ongoing project)

Strengthening local capacity-building and seismic risk prevention related to natural disasters, possible \$1 million, Emergency Architects of Canada and Engineers Without Borders, Quebec. This project aims to reinforce local capacities in anti seismic construction and disaster risk prevention by offering training to engineers and architects who participate in building security and justice infrastructure. (Project concept approved)

## Strategic goals

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### 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:**

Disaster risk reduction and sustainable development measures are supported by the Government of Canada through federal legislation, including the Emergency Management Act and Federal Sustainable Development Act (FSDA); national policies like the National Disaster Mitigation Strategy; and programs like the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements. These measures and activities are supported by parallel initiatives undertaken by provincial and territorial governments as well as non-governmental organization and academia. Engagement is coordinated through Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Canada passed the FSDA, which requires the Government of Canada to develop a comprehensive Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (FSDS). The FSDA provides the legal framework for developing and implementing the FSDS that will make environmental decision-making more transparent and accountable.

In 2010, public consultations were held related to the FSDS, which included DRR stakeholders. The FSDS will provide an integrated, whole of government picture of actions to achieve environmental sustainability.

The Government of Canada, together with provincial and territorial Governments, launched Canada's National Disaster Mitigation Strategy (NDMS). This Strategy is based on the recognition by federal, provincial, and territorial governments that mitigation is an important part of a robust DRR framework. The NDMS supports the Emergency Management Act and similar provincial/territorial legislation, while complimenting other legislation like the FSDA in an effort to develop sustainable, disaster resilient communities across Canada.

As part of its commitment under the HFA, Canada announced the establishment of a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction to build multi-stakeholder engaged and coordinated leadership in DRR. Canada's Platform seeks to compliment and strengthen existing engagement fora while creating new opportunities to maximize participation in DRR activities. Participation in Canada's Platform is open to organizations including community and environmental planning organizations, non-governmental, the private sector as well as individuals in the academic community.

## **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:**

The Government of Canada, in collaboration with provincial and territorial governments, has established a multi-level mechanism to collaborate on DRR issues. For example, the Senior Officials Responsible for Emergency Management (SOREM) committee, which is a federal/ provincial/ territorial (FPT) committee, works to enhance and harmonize, where appropriate emergency practices across the country. Products of FPT collaboration on emergency management include the development of the document An Emergency Management Framework for Canada (EMFC).

The EMFC guides and strengthens the way FPT governments work together to protect the safety and security of all Canadians. This framework aims to enable consolidation of FPT collaborative work and ensure more coherent, complementary actions among the different FPT governmental initiatives. The EMFC is revised every 5 years to ensure it remains relevant to the ever changing hazard environment.

Public Safety Canada further engages with other sub national DRR stakeholders through engagement fora including: the Domestic Group on Emergency Management, comprised of civil society and non-governmental organizations; the Critical Infrastructure National Cross Sector Forum, which brings together extended networks from across Canada's ten critical infrastructure sectors; and the Canadian Risk and Hazards Network, an independent non-governmental organization which brings together a broad cross-section of DRR stakeholders.

Canada's National Platform on DRR brings together representatives from the aforementioned engagement fora, as well as representatives from academia; federal institutions and all levels of government, in order to facilitate an open dialogue and integrated resilience capacity building at all levels.

### 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:**

The Government of Canada, in consultation and cooperation with provincial/territorial governments, contributes to emergency preparedness and critical infrastructure protection projects and initiatives such as the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP), which was established to enhance the national capacity to respond to all types of emergencies. Whether it is through training, the purchase of emergency response equipment or for emergency planning and exercises, this shared investment is aimed at reducing injuries and loss of human life, property damage, and assuring the continuation of our critical services in an emergency.

In the event of a large-scale natural disaster, the Government of Canada provides financial assistance to provincial/territorial governments through the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFAA). Through the DFAA, financial assistance is provided to the province or territory that has exceeded its coping capacity. The provincial/territorial governments then design, develop and deliver disaster financial assistance, deciding the amounts and types of assistance that will be provided to those communities that have experienced losses. Beginning in 2008, disaster mitigation enhancements are eligible for cost-sharing up to 15% of the estimated cost of repair to pre-disaster condition through the DFAA.

Internationally, Canada is currently managing a \$20 million program entitled "Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Program (CDRMP)" which will be implemented from 2007 to 2015 to strengthen regional, national and community level capacity for the mitigation, management, and coordinated response to natural and technological hazards, and the effects of climate change.

### **Priority for action 1**

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

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#### **Priority for action 1: 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

#### **Is DRR included in development plans and strategies?**

Yes

#### **Means of verification:**

\* Yes: National development plan

\* Yes: Sector strategies and plans

\* Yes: Climate change policy and strategy

\* No: Poverty reduction strategy papers

\* No: Common Country Assessments (CCA)/ UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)

**Description:**

The Government of Canada supports a range of disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery activities aimed at enhancing the capacity for disaster management domestically and globally. These activities are enabled through the Emergency Management Act and through strategies like the National Disaster Mitigation Strategy.

Public Safety Canada, as the lead federal department on domestic disaster risk reduction activities, facilitates collaboration among federal entities, the provinces and territories, as well as private and non-governmental partners in order to advance initiatives that protect the safety, property, and well-being of Canadians.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), has the lead responsibility for coordinating the Government of Canada's operational response to major natural disasters abroad. In this context, DFAIT seeks to encourage a whole-of-government Canadian response that is timely, coordinated, coherent, and focused on meeting relief and recovery needs in support of affected governments. Internationally, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has supported a global project by UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery to mainstream disaster risk reduction into the poverty reduction, governance, and environment portfolios of UNDP development programmes. Canada has also recently contributed to the World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) to assist high-risk developing countries to mainstream disaster risk reduction into their development policies, planning, and programming.

NRCan's Reducing Risk from Natural Hazards Programme assesses natural hazards and develops methods to help reduce the human, economic and infrastructural losses caused by these hazards. The programme focuses on building partnerships in areas where risk assessments indicate that new mitigation and preparedness efforts would offer the largest potential to reduce hazard-induced losses.

**Context & Constraints:**

All Canadians are involved in emergency management. Individual citizens, communities, municipalities, and federal, provincial, territorial governments, First Nations, emergency first responders, the private sector (both business and industry), volunteer and non-government organizations, academia, as well as international allies may be involved in emergency management. Good partnerships based on effective collaboration, coordination and communication are a key component of FPT emergency management systems.

**Priority for action 1: 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

**Is there a specific allocation of budget for DRR in the national budget?**

-- not complete --

**Means of verification:**

- \* N/A % allocated from national budget
- \* N/A USD allocated from overseas development assistance fund
- \* N/A USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)
- \* N/A USD allocated to stand alone DRR investments (e.g. DRR institutions, risk assessments, early warning systems)
- \* N/A USD allocated to disaster proofing post disaster reconstruction

**Description:**

The Department of Public Safety Canada, which oversees emergency management along with other concerns pertaining to a safe and secure Canada, is allocated a budget of \$430 million with approximately 800 employees.

While there is no specific funding envelope set-aside for disaster mitigation under any federal departmental programs, under Infrastructure Canada – Disaster mitigation infrastructure is eligible for federal cost sharing under many of the department's programs.

Beginning in 2008, disaster mitigation enhancements are eligible for cost-sharing up to 15% of the estimated cost of repair to pre-disaster condition through the DFAA.

Infrastructure Canada – Disaster Mitigation Infrastructure is eligible for federal cost sharing under many of the department's programs. While there is no specific funding envelope set-aside for disaster mitigation under departmental programs, several projects have been announced since September 30, 2009. Total costs of these projects are shared by the federal government, as well as provincial/territorial and municipal governments.

**Context & Constraints:**

FPT governments have respectively adopted a comprehensive approach to emergency management. The approach is proactive and integrates risk-based measures, all-hazards, partners from all parts of society and coordinates and balances efforts across the prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery functions.

**Priority for action 1: Core indicator 3**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

5: Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

**Do local governments have legal responsibility and budget allocations for DRR?**

Yes

**Means of verification:**



\* Yes: Legislation

\* Yes: Budget allocations for DRR to local government

**Description:**

Under Canada's Constitution Act, 1867, provinces and territories have primary responsibility for emergency management within their boundaries. If an incident escalates and exceeds the capacity or becomes of national interest, so do the response activities of various levels of government. At the request of a Province/Territory or where the type of emergency falls within federal jurisdiction or occurs on federal lands, the federal government provides help to manage and coordinate the response to an emergency.

The Emergency Management Act (2007) established that the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness (Minister of Public Safety) is responsible for responding to requests for assistance made by provinces/territories and for coordinating the assistance provided by other federal ministers to the provinces/territories.

It remains the obligation of the provinces/territories to ensure that they allocate appropriate funding for DRR and see that municipalities do the same.

**Context & Constraints:**

Emergency management roles and activities are carried out in a responsible manner at all levels of society in Canada. Legal and policy frameworks and other arrangements establish guidelines and standards to ensure that due diligence is exercised and accountability is respected in the conduct of emergency management activities. Emergency management responsibilities in Canada are shared by FPT governments and their partners, including individual citizens who have a responsibility to be prepared for disasters. Provincial and territorial governments have responsibility for emergency management within their respective jurisdictions. The federal government exercises leadership at the national level relating to emergency management responsibilities in its exclusive fields of jurisdictions and on lands and properties under federal responsibility.

**Priority for action 1: Core indicator 4**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

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

**Are civil society organisations , national planning institutions, key economic and development sector organisations represented in the national platform?**

Yes

**Means of verification:**

\* N/A civil society members (specify absolute number)

\* N/A sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)

\* N/A women's organisations participating in national platform (specify absolute number)

**Description:**

In 2009, Canada announced the establishment of a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction to build multi-stakeholder coordinated leadership in DRR. Canada's National Platform seeks to compliment and strengthen existing engagement fora while creating new opportunities to maximize participation in DRR activities.

Canada's Platform consists of four interdependent components: an advisory committee composed of representatives from pre-existing multi-stakeholder engagement fora; working groups based on specific issues or activities of interest to Canada's Platform; the general membership, which is open to stakeholders at any level with an interest in DRR; and a secretariat, which is housed in Public Safety Canada.

Annually, the ongoing work of the four components of Canada's Platform is brought together at the National Roundtable on Disaster Risk Reduction. The National Roundtable facilitates the discussion and advancement of disaster risk reduction issues among policy makers; practitioners; non-governmental organizations, federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments; and various professional organizations.

**Context & Constraints:**

2010 represents the official launch of Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

## **Priority for action 2**

*Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning*

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### **Priority for action 2: 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

**Is there a national multi-hazard risk assessment available to inform planning and development decisions?**

No

**Means of verification:**

- \* No: Multi-hazard risk assessment
- \* N/A % of schools and hospitals assessed
- \* N/A schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)
- \* No: Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments
- \* No: Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments

**Description:**

An All-Hazards Risk Assessment Framework and associated tools are under development and will complement future editions of the Government of Canada's Emergency Management Planning Guide.

The Federal Policy for Emergency Management requires all federal institutions of the Government of Canada to identify risk and develop appropriate plans to address these risks.

**Context & Constraints:**

Provincial and territorial governments, as well as municipal governments across Canada are responsible for the development and implementation of their own risk assessment processes, including the identification of risks and developing appropriate plans.

**Priority for action 2: Core indicator 2**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

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

**Are disaster losses systematically reported, monitored and analysed?**

Yes

**Means of verification:**

\* Yes: Disaster loss database

\* No: Reports generated and used in planning

**Description:**

Public Safety maintains the Canadian Disaster Database, which contains data on natural and non-natural disasters which impact Canadians, except crime and war. This data is informed by multiple agencies and provides a publicly accessible source of information on losses incurred as a result of disasters in Canada.

**Context & Constraints:**

Lessons learned and knowledge generated from evidence-based and qualitative information is used to develop improved practices, which are shared widely. After emergencies or disasters occur, a systematic approach is used to learn lessons from the experience, increase effectiveness and improve emergency management practices and processes. Recovery from a disaster may be completed by documenting and internalizing lessons learned. Continuous improvement, including incremental and transformational change, is undertaken systemically as an integral part of emergency management functions and practices at all levels, as appropriate, to minimize the recurrence of problems.

**Priority for action 2: Core indicator 3**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

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

-- not complete --

**Means of verification:**

- \* Yes: Early warnings acted on effectively
- \* Yes: Local level preparedness
- \* Yes: Communication systems and protocols
- \* Yes: Active involvement of media in early warning dissemination

**Description:**

Industry Canada (IC) provides advice and assistance to federal departments and agencies on the telecommunications requirements of their emergency response functions. IC also advises provinces/territories and municipalities on emergency telecommunications and related warning systems, and private and public telecommunications undertakings on mitigating the disruptive effects of emergencies on domestic and external telecommunications.

IC manages telecommunications priority services to improve the ability of public safety officials, emergency preparedness personnel, and officials with continuity-of-government responsibilities to communicate during emergencies.

Public Safety Canada is working with federal partners, the provinces and territories and the private sector to develop a national public alerting system that will warn Canadians of imminent or unfolding threats to life. The system will initially focus on radio and television but could eventually be expanded to include wireless and internet.

Environment Canada's Meteorological Service maintains a 24-hour weather watch and warning system to alert the public and mariners to impending severe weather and environmental hazards, including ice and air quality.

Environment Canada is working with Public Safety Canada to develop criteria to identify significant events during flooding and extreme rainfall return periods. Real-time access to water level and flow data is provided by the Meteorological Service of Canada Water Survey and its provincial partners to provincial and municipal authorities. Flood risk area designations from a previous flood risk mapping programme contribute towards reducing flood damages and risks to the public.

Internationally, Canada has supported the Indian Ocean Consortium, an initiative of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) System , to help Tsunami-affected countries strengthen their planning and capacity for tsunami early warning and response systems.

**Context & Constraints:**

FPT governments aim to be as open as possible about the work each of these does in emergency management. Clear communications by appropriate authorities are a critical and continuous process before, during and after an emergency. Prior to an emergency, communication objectives focus on public education concerning emergency management to enhance awareness of hazards, risks and vulnerabilities; strengthen prevention, mitigation and preparedness measures; and provide information on all aspects of emergency management. Public alerting communicates warning messages that a disaster is imminent. Communications during and directly after a disaster explains and guides immediate response actions to minimize impacts and protect safety. These communications are instructive on the requirements for short, medium and long-term recovery.

**Priority for action 2: 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:**

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

**Does your country participate in regional or sub-regional DRR programmes or projects?**

Yes

**Means of verification:**

- \* Yes: Programmes and projects addressing trans-boundary issues
- \* Yes: Regional and sub-regional strategies and frameworks
- \* Yes: Regional or sub-regional monitoring and reporting mechanisms
- \* Yes: Action plans addressing trans-boundary issues

**Description:**

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), actively promotes DRR in the context of international and regional fora, including the UN General Assembly and the Organization of American States.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has supported a global project by UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery to mainstream disaster risk reduction into the poverty reduction, governance and environment portfolios of the UNDP.

Canada actively participates in UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination teams by providing them with both financial and human resources.

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), as part of the UNESCO International Consortium on Landslides, provides research, training, technology transfer, and capacity building in both developed and developing countries.

Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans has played a key role in Canada's active involvement in the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System.

Through its membership in NATO, Public Safety Canada collaborates with other countries to support national authorities in civil emergency planning.

As part of APEC, Public Safety Canada supports building capacity in the region to mitigate, prepare for and respond appropriately to emergencies and natural disasters.

Canada and the United States have developed a framework of joint strategies to manage and assess risks related to cross-border natural disasters, included through the International Joint Commission.

In 2006, Canada helped the Organization of American States to create the Inter-American Network for Disaster Mitigation, which will serve as a mechanism to share knowledge in the Americas. Canada also supported the ISDR Secretariat's 2009 Regional Platform for DRR in the Americas.

Through NRCan's Geological Survey of Canada, Canada is working with the governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela on a project to strengthen Andean geo-science agencies in hazard assessment.

**Context & Constraints:**

The Government of Canada supports a range of disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery activities aimed at enhancing capacity for disaster management domestically, regionally and globally.

## Priority for action 3

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

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### Priority for action 3: 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:**

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

**Is there a national disaster information system publicly available?**

Yes

**Means of verification:**

\* Yes: Web page of national disaster information system

\* No: Established mechanisms for accessing DRR information

**Description:**

PublicSafety.gc.ca is the lead Web site for public safety information in Canada and provides Canadians with information and services relating to public safety from the Government of Canada and its partners.

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has developed web-based portals to facilitate the exchange of best practices and information related to health emergency management, including disaster reduction and preparedness materials.

Public Safety Canada maintains the Canadian Disaster Database, which contains data on natural and non-natural disasters which impact Canadians, excepting crime and war. This data is informed by multiple agencies and provides a publicly accessible source of information on losses incurred as a result of disasters in Canada.

**Context & Constraints:**

The contents of the Canadian Disaster Database undergo constant revision as new disasters occur and more information about past disasters becomes available. Cost and loss data in particular are subject to regular update since there are currently no standardized guidelines for collecting this type of information.

### Priority for action 3: 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

**Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum?**

No

**Means of verification:**

\* No: Primary school curriculum

\* No: Secondary school curriculum

\* Yes: University curriculum

\* Yes: Professional DRR education programmes

**Description:**

The Canadian Emergency Management College is a federal government learning institution providing programs and resources to the emergency management community across Canada. The College is an integral part of Public Safety Canada and supports its responsibility to enhance learning in all four pillars of emergency management.

Emergency Preparedness Week is coordinated by Public Safety Canada and involves all provinces and territories, first responders, organizations like the Red Cross and the private sector. It is a collaborative event with hundreds of activities across the country, all aimed at raising public awareness of the need to be prepared for emergencies.

Environment Canada is working with Public Safety Canada to develop criteria to identify significant events during flooding and extreme rainfall return periods. Real-time access to water level and flow data is provided by the Meteorological Service of Canada Water Survey and its provincial partners to provincial and municipal authorities. Flood risk area designations from a previous flood risk mapping programme contribute towards reducing flood damages and risks to the public.

**Context & Constraints:**

In addition to work of FPT governments to increase the profile of DRR in Canada, numerous private educational institutions have established emergency management and DRR programs at the college, undergraduate and graduate levels.

**Priority for action 3: Core indicator 3**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget?**

Yes

\* Yes: Research outputs, products or studies

\* Yes: Research programmes and projects

\* Yes: Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR

**Description:**

Research on DRR is included in the research programs of Government of Canada departments.

Examples include:

The Canadian Weather Research Programme, a government and university research collaboration on extreme weather, aims to improve the accuracy and timeliness of public weather warnings. Emerging products include weather ensemble predictions that provide risk-based information for decision-makers.

NRCan's Reducing Risk from Natural Hazards Programme assesses natural hazards and develops methods to help reduce the human, economic and infrastructural losses caused by these hazards. The programme focuses on building partnerships in areas where risk assessments indicate that new mitigation and preparedness efforts would offer the largest potential to reduce hazard-induced losses.

The Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Program supports the generation of improved knowledge of Canada's vulnerability to climate change with a goal to better assess the risks and benefits posed by a changing climate and to build the foundation upon which appropriate decisions on adaptation can be made. It supports research and related scientific activities to fill critical knowledge gaps regarding Canadian vulnerability to climate change; to undertake and support assessment of impacts and adaptation; to enhance collaboration between stakeholders and scientists; and to facilitate policy development.

GeoConnections is a national partnership program led by Natural Resources Canada to evolve and expand the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI). The CGDI provides Canadians with on-demand access to geographic information (e.g. maps, satellite images) and related services and applications in support of sound decision making.

The Canadian Hazards Information Service provided by Natural Resources Canada conducts monitoring and provides hazard information and products on an ongoing basis and in response to emergency situations involving earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, landslides, geomagnetic storms and radiological and nuclear incidents. This is accomplished through the provision of remote sensing, geomatics, and material support to government agencies responsible for emergency response.

Public Safety Canada encourages Canadian natural hazards research and networking through the Canadian Risk and Hazards Network launched as a Canadian partnership initiative at the 2005 World Conference on Disaster Reduction. The Network's annual symposium serves as an important forum to discuss mitigation activities and research in Canada.

**Context & Constraints:**

The National Disaster Mitigation Strategy (NDMS) recognises that sustainable Canadian mitigation activities must draw from and build upon domestic and international disaster mitigation research initiatives, scientific developments, best practices, and lessons learned from disaster events. The NDMS supports new and ongoing research efforts that build a knowledge base for mitigation decisions. Research is essential to the program.

**Priority for action 3: 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:**

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

**Do public education campaigns on DRR reach risk-prone communities?**

Yes

**Means of verification:**

\* Yes: Public education campaigns.

\* Yes: Training of local government

\* Yes: Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level

**Description:**

The 72 Hours Campaign includes a range of publications and promotional materials, a dedicated website ([www.GetPrepared.ca](http://www.GetPrepared.ca)), social media, advertising, collaborative arrangements, exhibits and special events such as Emergency Preparedness Week, which is held the first week each May.

Emergency Preparedness Week is coordinated by Public Safety Canada and involves all provinces and territories, first responders, organizations like the Red Cross and the private sector. It is a collaborative event with hundreds of activities across the country, all aimed at raising public awareness of the need to be prepared for emergencies.

Public Safety Canada manages the National Exercise Program, which conducts training courses and operational exercises to enhance the National Emergency Response System and engages multiple departments as well as provincial/territorial and municipal governments in these exercises.

The Canadian Emergency Management College is a federal government learning institution providing programs and resources to the emergency management community across Canada. The College is an integral part of Public Safety Canada and supports its responsibility to enhance learning in all four pillars of emergency management.

In coordination with its government and non-government partners, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has developed web-based portals to facilitate the exchange of best practices and information related to health emergency management, including disaster reduction and preparedness materials.

PHAC has completed an applied research project assessing strategies and tools to enhance awareness of severe weather events, and strengthen household and community preparedness in both urban and rural settings.

**Context & Constraints:**

In Canada, resilience is defined as the capacity of a system, community or society to adapt to disturbances resulting from hazards by persevering, recuperating or changing to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning. Emergency management aims to strengthen the resiliency of citizens, responders, organizations, communities, governments, systems and society overall to keep hazards from becoming disasters. Resilience minimizes vulnerability or susceptibility to damage from hazards by creating or strengthening social and physical capacity in the human and built-environment to cope with, adapt to, respond to, and recover and learn from disasters.

## Priority for action 4

*Reduce the underlying risk factors*

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### Priority for action 4: 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

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

Yes

#### **Means of verification:**

- \* 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

#### **Description:**

The Environmental Damages Fund (EDF) follows the "Polluter Pays Principle" to help ensure that those who cause environmental damage or harm to wildlife take responsibility for their actions. The EDF is a specified purpose account, administered by Environment Canada, to provide a mechanism for directing funds received as a result of fines, court orders, and voluntary payments to priority projects that will benefit our natural environment.

The Regional Adaptation Collaboratives (RACs) Climate Change Program is a three year, \$30 million, cost-shared federal program to help Canadians reduce the risks and maximize the opportunities posed by climate change. The Program helps communities prepare for and adapt to local impacts posed by our changing climate, such as: decreasing fresh water supplies; increasing droughts, floods and coastal erosion; and changing forestry, fisheries and agricultural resources.

Turning the Corner Plan is an action plan that sets out to reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions by 20% relative to 2006 levels by 2020, and reductions of 60 to 70 percent below 2006 levels by 2050. This plan set out an agenda to improve the environment and the health of Canadians through a series of concrete, innovative measures to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and air pollutants. The government is introducing mandatory and enforceable actions across a broad range of sectors.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Climate change is a global issue that requires real solutions. The Government of Canada supports an approach that will achieve real environmental and economic benefits for all Canadians.

The causes of climate change and its impacts on the environment and human health are now more understood. Canada is a vast country with a diverse climate, which makes the impacts of climate change

all the more important.

The Government of Canada supports efforts to protect the environment by developing policies and programs, conducting scientific research, and working with other government departments, the provinces, territories and international partners in the fight against climate change.

#### **Priority for action 4: Core indicator 2**

*Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

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

Yes

#### **Means of verification:**

- \* Yes: Crop and property insurance
- \* No: Employment guarantee schemes
- \* No: Conditional cash transfers
- \* No: DRR aligned poverty reduction, welfare policy and programmes
- \* No: Microfinance
- \* No: Micro insurance

#### **Description:**

Canada has a Crop Insurance program which has been available in all provinces for 25 years. It protects crops against yield due to uncontrollable natural hazards. Although it originated as a Federal initiative, Crop Insurance is administered at a provincial and territorial level.

In 2007, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Infrastructure Canada signed an agreement for infrastructure projects for First Nations communities on reserve. The First Nation Infrastructure Fund (FNIF) engages First Nations in purposeful partnerships while fostering sustainable First Nations communities across Canada. It also contributes to improving the quality of life for First Nations community members. FNIF provides First Nations with the opportunity to access funds for community planning and skills development, waste management, roads and bridges, energy systems and connectivity projects.

The Public Health Agency of Canada has a tool kit to provide a user-friendly electronic package designed to assist exercise planners in the Canadian health sector plan, design and prepare a generic, scalable pandemic influenza tabletop exercise.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Despite the absence of employment guarantee schemes, Human Resources Development Canada has twice extended the Work Sharing program in the wake of a disaster to allow employers to temporarily reduce available work in order to recover without laying off staff.

### **Priority for action 4: 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

#### **Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment?**

Yes

#### **Means of verification:**

\* Yes: National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.

\* Yes: Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals

#### **Description:**

Infrastructure Canada programs provide federal funding support for priority infrastructure projects across Canada. Projects are typically proposed and managed by either provinces/territories or municipal governments, who also share in project costs. Within these programs, many different categories of investment are considered eligible, including investments into Disaster Mitigation Infrastructure. Under this category, the federal government can cost share in specific infrastructure projects that involve:

The construction, modification or reinforcement of structures that protect from, prevent or mitigate potential physical damage resulting from extreme natural events, and impacts or events related to climate change; or,

The modification, reinforcement or relocation of existing Public Infrastructure to mitigate the effects of and/or improve resiliency to extreme natural events and impacts or events related to climate change.

These investments serve to protect key infrastructure and communities, which can mitigate the impacts of extreme natural events on businesses and local economies.

The National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure establishes a collaborative, federal-provincial-territorial and private sector approach built around partnerships, risk management and information sharing and protection. The Action Plan for Critical Infrastructure is the blueprint for how the National Strategy will be implemented to enhance the resiliency of Canada's ten critical infrastructure sectors.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

These investments serve to protect key infrastructure and communities, which can mitigate the impacts of extreme natural events on businesses and local economies.

### **Priority for action 4: 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

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

Yes

### **Means of verification:**

- \* No: Investment in drainage infrastructure in flood prone areas
- \* No: Slope stabilisation in landslide prone areas
- \* No: Training of masons on safe construction technology
- \* No: Provision of safe land for low income households and communities

### **Description:**

While no current program exists for drainage infrastructure in flood prone areas, Canada has had an active DRR project in the Manitoba floodway. Originally completed in 1968, the floodway cost \$63 million. It has since saved Manitoba \$10 billion in flood damages. After a major flood in 1997, a commission recommended expansion of the floodway. Funding for this expansion is being shared equally by the Government of Canada and the Province of Manitoba to a total of \$665 million.

While there is no dedicated stabilization program in landslide prone areas, the Canada Landslide Loss Reduction program consists of research scientists and engineers in the Earth Sciences Sector of Natural Resources Canada who specialize in landslide studies and are engaged in a variety of activities individually, in partnership with provincial/territorial representatives and collaboratively with academia, the private sector and other federal agencies to improve Canada's understanding of landslides and minimize the losses incurred from landslides.

The Geological Survey of Canada, under Natural Resources Canada, are currently developing a landslide susceptibility map of Canada which will provide a national scale reflection of diverse nature of landslide potential and therefore relative risk for the hazard. This information is directed to the public and general practitioners to be used as a first approximation of landslide threat in the country.

The 2005 edition of the National Building Code of Canada sets out technical provisions for the design and construction of new buildings. It also applies to the alteration, change of use and demolition of existing buildings. The Building code is enforced in Canada and contains provisions related to such issues as fire protection, occupant safety and accessibility, structural design, environmental separation, heating, ventilating and air-conditioning, plumbing services and housing and small buildings.

### **Context & Constraints:**

Climate change has the potential to impact the safety of existing structures, increase the frequency of weather-related disasters, accelerate premature weathering of structures, change climatic design criteria for codes and standards and alter engineering practices. With Canadian buildings and infrastructure assets valued at more than \$5.5 trillion and the construction sector accounting for a significant component of Canada's economy, the impacts from our changing climate will be significant, requiring adaptation solutions.

Since almost all of today's infrastructure has been designed using climatic design values derived from historical climate data, any changes in future climates will require modifications to how structures are engineered, maintained and operated. As infrastructure built in current times is intended to survive for decades to come, it is important that adaptation options for the changing climate be developed today and that future climate changes be incorporated into infrastructure design whenever possible.

In support of these adaptive approaches, Environment Canada and the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes are updating and improving more than 6000 specific climatic design values used in the National Building Code of Canada and by many Canadian Standards Association national standards. Other research and development is targeting the development of new guidance on current and future climate conditions for incorporation into engineering practices and codes and standards.

#### **Priority for action 4: Core indicator 5**

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

##### **Level of Progress achieved:**

5: Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

##### **Do post-disaster recovery programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR?**

Yes

##### **Means of verification:**

\* 15 % of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR

\* No: Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery

##### **Description:**

The Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangement (DFAA) includes a provision for 15% of the estimated cost of repair to pre-disaster condition to be allocated for enhancements to mitigate future events. The DFAA guidelines were enhanced to include a provision for cost-sharing of mitigative enhancements to an amount of 15% of infrastructure repair costs.

##### **Context & Constraints:**

Since the inception of the program in 1970, the Government of Canada has paid out more than \$1.8 billion in post-disaster assistance to help provinces/territories with the costs of response and of returning infrastructure and personal property to pre-disaster condition.

#### **Priority for action 4: Core indicator 6**

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

##### **Level of Progress achieved:**

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

##### **Are the impacts of major development projects on disaster risk assessed?**

Yes

##### **Means of verification:**

\* Yes: Assessments of impact of projects such as dams, irrigation schemes, highways, mining, tourist developments etc on disaster risk

\* Yes: Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)

##### **Description:**

The Government of Canada has adopted an all-hazards approach to emergency management, as outlined in the Emergency Management Act. This all-hazards approach implements risk-based emergency management which is dependent on risk assessment. Risk assessment is promoted to identify the potential impacts of events on people, property and the environment.

Public Safety Canada leads the coordination of federal government emergency management activities including conducting risk assessments. It also facilitates the implementation of a risk-based approach by the provinces and territories who bear the mandate of emergency management through the Federal Policy for Emergency Management, An Emergency Management Framework for Canada, and the Emergency Management Planning Guide.

The environmental impact assessment program within Parks Canada encompasses a number of legislated and policy-based processes. These include the strategic assessment of policy, plan and program proposals, as required by a Cabinet Directive, and environmental impact assessment of projects under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) is the legal basis for the federal environmental assessment process. CEAA came into force in 1995. Legislative amendments were introduced in 2001 and came into force on October 30, 2003.

CEAA and its associated regulations outline the responsibilities, requirements and procedures for the environmental assessment of projects and establish a process for assessing the potential environmental effects of projects in which the Government of Canada has a decision-making responsibility.

**Context & Constraints:**

N/A

## **Priority for action 5**

*Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels*

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### **Priority for action 5: 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:**

5: Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

**Are there national programmes or policies to make schools and health facilities safe in emergencies?**

-- not complete --

**Means of verification:**

\* No: Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety

\* No: Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness

**Description:**

Comprehensive domestic data is being compiled for the Final Progress Report.

Internationally, Canada has contributed over 23 million to to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) for their Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief Programme, which focuses on improving disaster preparedness and response capacity in the health sector, and nd protecting health services from the risk of disasters.

**Context & Constraints:**

N/A

**Priority for action 5: 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:**

5: Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

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

Yes

**Means of verification:**

\* No: Contingency plans with gender sensitivities

\* 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 women in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities

**Description:**

The Government Operations Centre (GOC) is Canada's strategic-level operations centre. It provides 24/7 monitoring and reporting, situational awareness, risk assessments and warning products. During a period of heightened response the GOC could be augmented by staff from a variety of federal institutions. The GOC also maintains contact with the provinces and territories as well as international partners.

There are a number of Search and Rescue (SAR) teams in place within Canada. The National SAR Secretariat maintain the ground SAR operations, while the Canadian Coast Guard supports the marine SAR. There is also an aeronautical SAR maintained by the Canadian Forces and the urban SAR, light, medium, and heavy, are overseen by Public Safety. In addition, there are volunteer search SAR groups such as the Civil Air SAR Association, the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the SAR Volunteer Association of Canada.

The Public Health Agency of Canada maintains a \$300 million National Emergency Stockpile System to provide emergency supplies quickly to provinces and territories when requested. A 24-hour response capability is maintained. The system consists of a central depot in Ottawa, as well as eight other



warehouses and 1,300 supply centres strategically located across Canada. The NESS contains everything that you would expect to find in a hospital including 165 "field hospitals", with 200 beds in each as well as emergency shelters.

The Heavy Urban Search and Rescue teams also maintain limited stocks of supplies for emergencies.

As part of baseline security requirements, federal departments are required to establish Business Continuity Planning Programs to provide for the continued availability of services and assets that are critical to the health, safety, security or economic well-being of Canadians, or the effective functioning of government, and other services when warranted by a threat and risk assessment.

**Context & Constraints:**

Public Safety Canada (PS) provides national leadership for Urban SAR (USAR) development to ensure that program development is coordinated and appropriately shared among the federal government, provinces and territories, major urban centres, and other national and international stakeholders. The USAR program is one aspect of the federal government's commitment to enhance Canada's national emergency response capacity.

In addition to Heavy USAR development, PS also supports the development of a complementary range of equipment and other resources for Light and Medium USAR in smaller urban centres across the country. Forty-one jurisdictions in Canada have accessed available funds to develop Light and Medium USAR capabilities with 50% of funds coming from the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program.

In the development of the USAR program, PS works to ensure that teams, equipment and technology are interoperable at a national level. PS has published The Canadian Urban Search and Rescue Classification Guide, which defines the standard array of tools, equipment and supplies suitable for teams at Light, Medium and Heavy operational levels.

**Priority for action 5: Core indicator 3**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

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

Yes

**Means of verification:**

- \* Yes: National contingency funds
- \* No: Catastrophe insurance facilities
- \* No: Catastrophe bonds

**Description:**

When response and recovery costs exceed what individual provinces or territories could reasonably be expected to bear on their own, the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements are used by the Government of Canada to administer cost shared federal financial assistance to provinces and territories for natural disaster response and recovery.

Public Safety Canada Regional Offices contribute to the recovery efforts of affected communities and partner organizations through the delivery of departmental financial assistance programs. Since the inception of the program in 1970, the Government of Canada has paid out more than \$1.8 billion in post-disaster assistance to help provinces and territories with the costs of response and of returning infrastructure and personal property to pre-disaster condition.

Internationally, Canada is contributing \$25 million toward the capitalization of the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF). The CCRIF has been established to reduce financial vulnerability of participating countries to catastrophic natural disasters, by providing access to insurance.

**Context & Constraints:**

N/A

**Priority for action 5: 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

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

Yes

**Means of verification:**

- \* No: Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available
- \* No: Post disaster need assessment methodologies
- \* No: Post disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects
- \* No: Identified and trained human resources

**Description:**

Canada continues the development of a standardized methodology to assess disaster losses, while respecting existing procedures and provincial/territorial jurisdiction.

**Context & Constraints:**

N/A

## **Drivers of Progress**

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

**Levels of Reliance:**

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

Emergency management adopts an all-hazards approach in every jurisdiction in Canada.

The all-hazards approach is an approach recognizes that the actions required to mitigate the effects of emergencies are essentially the same, irrespective of the nature of the event, thereby permitting an optimization of scarce planning, response and support resources. The intention of all-hazards generic emergency planning is to employ generic methodologies, modified as necessary by particular circumstances.

All-hazards incorporates natural and man-made hazards threats including traditional emergency management events such as flooding and industrial accidents; as well as national security events such as acts of terrorism; and cyber events.

Provincial and territorial governments, as well as municipal governments across Canada are responsible for the development and implementation of their own risk assessment processes.

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

**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):**

The Government of Canada recognizes the importance of continuing to enhance the practice of gender-based analysis (GBA) across all departments and agencies. All federal institutions share responsibility for making GBA sustainable. Although the responsibility for performing GBA rests with individual departments and agencies, Status of Women Canada, the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat and the Privy Council Office, are working with federal institutions to enhance the role they play in GBA issues.

## **c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened**

**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.

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

Through commitments met under the HFA, ongoing domestic emergency management initiatives and international development activities Canada has increased the scope and depth of its DRR resilience capacity building.

Recent examples of this capacity building include the establishment of Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, the National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure and Action Plan and Canada's humanitarian response to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

## **d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction**

## **and recovery activities**

### **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.

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

Canada works to ensure that social equity concerns are incorporated in DRR initiatives. As DRR is further mainstreamed throughout Canadian international development programming, links will continue to be made between DRR and social equity.

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

### **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):**

The establishment of Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction serves as an example of the cross sectoral engagement of non-governmental actors; civil society; private sector; and academia with governments at all levels in support of DRR.

Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is open to participation from any stakeholders with an interest in DRR. Members may be representatives from any level of government, any private sector organization, any non-government organization etc. or even individual citizens who wish to contribute to the national discourse and action on DRR.

## **f) 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):**

TBC

## **Future outlook**

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### **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:**

Canada, like all nations, is being faced with the uncertainties presented by global climate change and its impacts on domestic and international sustainability. By maintaining and strengthening societal resilience through sustainable DRR, Canada hopes to increase adaptive opportunities while minimizing risks associated with global climate change.

The Government of Canada has published several research reports including the Department of Natural Resources Canada's "From Impacts to Adaptation: Canada in a Changing Climate 2007", which reflects the advances made in understanding Canada's vulnerability to climate change during the past decade. Health Canada also published "Human Health in a Changing Climate: A Canadian Assessment of Vulnerabilities and Adaptive Capacity". Building on the research and findings of the Natural Resources Canada evaluation, Health Canada's assessment reports on the scope and magnitude of the current and potential health impacts of climate change in Canada related to air quality, infectious disease and natural hazards.

**Future Outlook Statement:**

Canada will continue to take a comprehensive look at the projected impacts of global climate change. Canada's high latitude and fertile lands could potentially present both challenges and adaptive opportunities for disaster risk reduction and sustainable development.

**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:**

Canada is currently undergoing a revision of "An Emergency Management Framework for Canada", as such more comprehensive input will be provided for the final report submitted at the end of the 2009-2011 reporting cycle.

**Future Outlook Statement:**

See above.

**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:**

Canada's comprehensive approach to emergency management, which includes prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, inherently facilitates the incorporation of DRR throughout all emergency management activities.

Similar to many countries, Canada experiences challenges given its constitutional framework. However, much work has been done to ensure effective cooperation and collaboration between all levels of government. The ongoing operation of Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction further harmonizes all elements of the Canadian emergency management system.

**Future Outlook Statement:**

The year 2010 is the inaugural year for Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. As the structure and work of Canada's Platform become increasingly prominent in Canada, it is hoped that DRR will enjoy ever greater integration throughout emergency management at all levels.

**Stakeholders**

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## **Departments/organizations that have contributed to the report**

- \* Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Gov)
- \* Canada Border Services Agency (Gov)
- \* Canada Command (Gov)
- \* Canada Revenue Agency (Gov)
- \* Canadian Coast Guard (Gov)
- \* Canadian Food Inspection Agency (Gov)
- \* Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (Gov)
- \* Canadian Security Intelligence Service (Gov)
- \* Citizenship and Immigration Canada (Gov)
- \* Communications Security Establishment (Gov)
- \* Correctional Services Canada (Gov)
- \* Environment Canada (Gov)
- \* Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Gov)
- \* Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Gov)
- \* Health Canada (Gov)
- \* Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (Gov)
- \* Industry Canada (Gov)
- \* Integrated Threat Assessment Centre (Gov)
- \* Justice Canada (Gov)
- \* National Defence (Gov)
- \* National Search and Rescue Secretariat (Gov)
- \* Natural Resources Canada (Gov)
- \* Privy Council Office (Gov)
- \* Public Health Agency of Canada (Gov)
- \* Public Works and Government Services Canada (Gov)

\* Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Gov)

\* Service Canada (Gov)

\* Transport Canada (Gov)

\* Treasury Board of Canada (Gov)