



Thimphu, Bhutan

Local progress report on the implementation of the 10 Essentials for Making Cities Resilient (First Cycle)

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Essential 1

Put in place organization and coordination to understand and reduce disaster risk, based on participation of citizen groups and civil society. Build local alliances. Ensure that all departments understand their role to disaster risk reduction and preparedness.

How well are local organizations (including local government) equipped with capacities (knowledge, experience, official mandate) for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Local Government formed after the election In January 2011 as per the Local Government Act 2009. There is already a small office under the local government administration which is functioning as a disaster management focal office

To what extent do partnerships exist between communities, private sector and local authorities to reduce risk?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Due to lack of resources and adequate awareness amongst the stakeholders, there has not been enough preparedness for any kind of disaster.

How much does the local government support vulnerable local communities (particularly women, elderly, infirmed, children) to actively participate in risk reduction decision-making, policy making, planning and implementation processes?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Due to lack of resources and adequate awareness amongst the stakeholders, there has not been enough preparedness for any kind of disaster.

To what extent does the local government participate in the national DRR planning?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

This office works in consultation with the Department of Disaster Management under the Central Government.

Essential 2

Assign a budget for disaster risk reduction and provide incentives for homeowners, low-income families, communities, businesses and public sector to invest in reducing the risks they face.

How far does the local government have access to adequate financial resources to carry out risk reduction activities?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

No details available

To what degree does the local government allocate sufficient financial resources to carry out DRR activities, including effective disaster response and recovery?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

No details available

What is the scope of financial services (e.g. saving and credit schemes, macro and micro-insurance) available to vulnerable and marginalised households for pre- disaster times?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

No details available

To what extent are micro finance, cash aid, soft loans, lone guarantees etc available to affected households after disasters to restart livelihoods?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

There are insurance companies where the personal household property can be insured with the companies. For the worst affected during the disaster there are grants awarded by the King also to relieve the personal losses including lives

How well established are economic incentives for investing in disaster risk reduction for households and businesses (e.g. reduced insurance premiums for households, tax holidays for businesses)?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

No details available

To what extent do local business associations, such as chambers of commerce and similar, support efforts of small enterprises for business continuity during and after disasters?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

No details available

Essential 3

Maintain up-to-date data on hazards and vulnerabilities, prepare risk assessments and use these as the basis for urban development plans and decisions. Ensure that this information and the plans for your city's resilience are readily available to the public and fully discussed with them.

To what degree does the local government conducted thorough disaster risk assessments for key vulnerable development sectors in your local authority?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

These needs to be discussed and learned from the countries where such systems do function.

To what extent are these risk assessments regularly updated, e.g. annually or on a bi-annual basis?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

These needs to be discussed and learned from the countries where such systems do function.

How regularly does the local government communicate to the community, information on local hazard trends and risk reduction measures (e.g. using a Risk Communications Plan) including early warnings of likely hazard impact?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

These needs to be discussed and learned from the countries where such systems do function.

How well are local government risk assessments linked to, and supportive of, risk assessments from neighbouring local authorities and state or provincial government risk management plans?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

These needs to be discussed and learned from the countries where such systems do function.

How well are disaster risk assessments incorporated into all relevant local development planning on a consistent basis?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

These needs to be discussed and learned from the countries where such systems do function.

Essential 4

Invest in and maintain critical infrastructure that reduces risk, such as flood drainage, adjusted where needed to cope with climate change.

How far do land use policies and planning regulations for housing and development infrastructure take current and projected disaster risk (including climate related risks) into account?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Housing	No
Communication	No
Transportation	No
Energy	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Being a hilly terrain city there are less chances of experiencing flooding and also proper drainage is always planned and constructed to take care of the surface water during the heavy rain

How adequately are critical public facilities and infrastructure located in high risk areas assessed for all hazard risks and safety?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Being a hilly terrain city there are less chances of experiencing flooding and also proper drainage is always planned and constructed to take care of the surface water during the heavy rain

How adequate are the measures that are being undertaken to protect critical public facilities and infrastructure from damage during disasters?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Besides we also construct river embankment to control flooding and the river running through city has no glacial lake at the source.

Essential 5

Assess the safety of all schools and health facilities and upgrade these as necessary.

To what extent have local schools, hospitals and health facilities received special attention for "all hazard" risk assessments in your local authority?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Schools	No
Hospitals/ health facilities	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Hospitals are with the Central Government

How safe are all main schools, hospitals and health facilities from disasters so that they have the ability to remain operational during emergencies?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Schools	No
Hospitals/ health facilities	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

To what degree do local government or other levels of government have special programs in place to regularly assess schools,

hospitals and health facilities for maintenance, compliance with building codes, general safety, weather-related risks etc.?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Schools	No
Hospitals/ health facilities	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

How far are regular disaster preparedness drills undertaken in schools, hospitals and health facilities?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Schools	No
Hospitals/ health facilities	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

Essential 6

Apply and enforce realistic, risk compliant building regulations and land use planning principles. Identify safe land for low-income citizens and develop upgrading of informal settlements, wherever feasible.

How well are risk-sensitive land use regulations and building codes, health and safety codes enforced across all development zones and building types?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Building designs are strictly checked for seismic design incorporation and regulated for proper safety of the property and the public

How strong are existing regulations (e.g. land use plans, building codes etc) to support disaster risk reduction in your local authority?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Building designs are strictly checked for seismic design incorporation and regulated for proper safety of the property and the public

Essential 7

Ensure education programmes & training on disaster risk reduction are in place in schools and communities.

How regularly does the local government conduct awareness-building or education programs on DRR and disaster preparedness for local communities?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Programs include cultural diversity issues	No
Programs are sensitive to gender perspectives	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

This part of the awareness program is managed by the Central Government

To what extent does the local government provide training in risk reduction for local officials and community leaders?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

This part of the awareness program is managed by the Central Government

To what degree do local schools and colleges include courses, education or training in disaster risk reduction (including climate related risks) as part of the education curriculum?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

This part of the awareness program is managed by the Central Government

How aware are citizens of evacuation plans or drills for evacuations when necessary?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

This part of the awareness program is managed by the Central Government

Essential 8

Protect ecosystems and natural buffers to mitigate floods, storm surges and other hazards to which your city may be vulnerable. Adapt to climate change by building on good risk reduction practices.

How well integrated are local government DRR policies, strategies and implementation plans with existing environmental development and natural resource management plans?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

To what degree does the local government support the restoration, protection and sustainable management of ecosystems services?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Forests	No
Coastal zones	No
Wetlands	No
Water resources	No
River basins	No
Fisheries	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

How much do civil society organizations and citizens participate in the restoration, protection and sustainable management of ecosystems services?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

How much does the private sector participate in the implementation of environmental and ecosystems management plans in your local authority?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

Essential 9

Install early warning systems and emergency management capacities in your city and hold regular public preparedness drills.

To what degree do local institutions have access to financial reserves to support effective disaster response and early recovery?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

As the local government we need to be better prepared with financial assistance from the Central Government.

To what extent are early warning centres established, adequately staffed (or on-call personnel) and well resourced (power back ups, equipment redundancy etc) at all times?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

We need to work on the formation of a team to handle such situations

How much do warning systems allow for adequate community participation?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

To what extent does the local government have an emergency operations centre (EOC) and/or an emergency communication system?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

How regularly are training drills and rehearsal carried out with the participation of relevant government, non-governmental, local leaders and volunteers?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

How available are key resources for effective response, such as emergency supplies, emergency shelters, identified evacuation routes and contingency plans at all times?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Stockpiles of relief supplies	No
Emergency shelters	No
Safe evacuation routes identified	No
Contingency plan or community disaster	No

preparedness plan for all major hazards

Description of Progress & Achievements:

no details available

Essential 10

After any disaster, ensure that the needs of the survivors are placed at the centre of reconstruction with support for them and their community organizations to design and help implement responses, including rebuilding homes and livelihoods.

How much access does the local government have to resources and expertise to assist victims of psycho-social (psychological, emotional) impacts of disasters?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

In the past, post disaster plans have always been taken care by the secretariat to His Majesty the King and all necessary support have been provided through assistance from the donor countries and UN supplies

How well are disaster risk reduction measures integrated into post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation activities (i.e. build back better, livelihoods rehabilitation)?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

In the past, post disaster plans have always been taken care by the secretariat to His Majesty the King and all necessary support have been provided through assistance from the donor countries and UN supplies

To what degree does the Contingency Plan (or similar plan) include an outline strategy for post disaster recovery and reconstruction, including needs assessments and livelihoods rehabilitation?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

In the past, post disaster plans have always been taken care by the secretariat to His Majesty the King and all necessary support have been provided through assistance from the donor countries and UN supplies