

NCCG Report

2020

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ANNEX 1 & 2

Nairobi City Risk Hub is co-convening sector and DRR policy dialogues and consultations with the Nairobi City County Government (NCCG) through its Disaster Management Unit with main aimed at shifting the focus of hazard management in Nairobi city from a crisis/emergency response to an integrated disaster management and urban planning system, and resultant reduction of risks towards achieving sustainable and resilient development in Nairobi.

Nairobi Risk Hub and NCCG aim to help reduce disaster risks for the poor in Nairobi City and to embed disaster risk management into the Nairobi City urban planning by integrating resilience against extreme events. As a delivery and impact pathway as well as a strategy to create a direct linkage between research and policy, the Hub will facilitate bi-weekly sector consultations and quarterly multi sector policy dialogues to provide an understanding of existing DRR policies, legislation, strategies and plans at the county and national levels, to identify how NCCG sectors are integrating DRR, to identify the linkages between the social and physical sciences, and at the same time enhance capacity building within the county disaster management team. The outputs of these policy dialogues and consultations will inform next actions including comprehensive field work, which will include household interviews in preselected settlements and institutional survey interviews targeting local, regional and international organizations, departments and ministries in Nairobi County and neighboring counties

The series of the policy dialogues and consultations are focused on bringing together the city sector officials. These series of dialogues are informed by the literature review of global, regional, national and city led policy process, research projects on DRR and ongoing modelling on fire and floods undertake by the Hub' researchers. The literature reviews, sector consultations and policy dialogues and field work will be triangulated with modelling at later stage to inform development of an integrated disaster management plan and policy framework Nairobi City County.

The concept note guiding the NCCG Sector-DRR policy dialogues and consultations was jointly developed by the NCCG through Brian Kisali, the Deputy Director, Fire Fighting and Disaster Management in liaison with the researchers from the Nairobi Risk Hub. The design of the dialogues and consultations is to facilitate participation of all the sectors to understand Tomorrow's Cities research and to facilitate them to share their understanding about disaster risks and DRR, data and information, what they are doing in their respective sectors towards disaster risk management from practice to policy level, the ongoing sector activities including projects and policy related aimed at integrating DRR or that could provide an opportunity to integrate DRR. In addition, the dialogues and consultations are designed to facilitate sector representatives to engage in the research towards developing evidenced based integrated disaster management policy framework for Nairobi City, which include review of the draft disaster management plan (2019), draft disaster management policy (2019) and the Nairobi City Emergency and Disaster Management Act (2015).

The inception of the dialogues and consultations commenced with the technical staff starting with the directors, deputy directors and other technical personnel heading sub units within the city sectors as advised by the NCCG. The dialogue and consultation process is designed to have four (4) dialogues and consultations to provide time and space for each sector to participate due to their busy schedule especially at this time of COVID-19. Once all sectors have participated in the 4 series of the dialogues, they will converge at a Multi stakeholders/Multidisciplinary City DRR Policy Dialogue that will bring together not only the city sector representatives but also DRR and policy experts from Tomorrow' Cities Hub and outside the NCCG. The dialogues bring together between 4-6 sectors because of its time (2 hours). The sessions run from 10:00hr-Noon in each dialogue. The first sector-DRR policy dialogue and consultation was held on 30th June 2020. The next will be held on 14th July, 28th July and 11th August, 2020. The Multistakeholder/Multidisciplinary City DRR Policy Dialogue will be held on 25th August 2020 to harmonize the outputs of the 4 series of sector dialogues and consultation and make expert input to shape the outputs from research, capacity needs, and practice and policy perspective.

OBJECTIVES

The key objectives of the bi-weekly sector consultations are:

01

1.To introduction the Multihazard project to the sectors in Nairobi City County

02

To facilitate sharing of sector policies, plans, programmes, strategies and legislations for analysis and gap identification in response to DRR in Nairobi City County

03

To share both analyzed and raw data and information necessary to DRR integration into sectors in the City

04

To assess and review integration of DRR in the City' sector policies, legislations, regulations, plans, programmes and strategies

05

To identify appropriate pathways to effectively integrate DRR into the City' sectors

OBJECTIVES

Expected Outputs:

- 01 Inventory and database of sector policies, plans, legislations, regulations, programmes and strategies
- 02 Synthesis of DDR integration into City' sectors

DISCUSSIONS

This section is an opportunity to demonstrate how top management is taking the lead and giving direction to your NFP's sustainability efforts.

The NCCG Sector-DRR policy dialogue and consultation was attended by 5 city officials but one official from the disaster management unit couldn't proceed due to poor network/connectivity. The 4 sector representative who continued with the session include, Directorate of environment and natural resources, Urban Renewal, Housing and project Management, Sub- County administration and food, agriculture and forestry- (Forestry and Land use).

1. Awareness on Multi-hazard project among the sectors in Nairobi City County and definition of DRR among the sectors

The Hub's City Lead took through the city sector officials to understand the main aim of Tomorrow's Cities research projects, facilitated them to identify opportunities for engagement and expected outputs as well as Community of Practice (CoP) and African Research and Impact Network (ARIN) where they will engage regularly even beyond the project period to leverage the lessons from the project within and outside Nairobi City. The sector officials acknowledged and appreciated the project as timely for them because they keep seeking evidence to inform their response to disaster risks like floods and fire compounded currently by COVID-19. The city official also acknowledged the project as timely because only 10 sectors have developed standard operating procedures (SOPs), which require review in addition to helping other sectors to develop their respective SOPs. The further expounded on their capacity needs which range from need for them to understand the basics on disaster risks and management to advance level of integrating evidence from research into policy making and decision making process at the department, sector and city level. The sector officials admitted that over years, they have had to make decisions and policies deficient of evidence due to their limited knowledge and scattered research and data and information on disaster risks. The officials admitted that the presentation was an eye-opener for them and they unanimously committed to participate in the research towards contributing to not only developing an integrated disaster management policy framework but also build their individual capacity and develop city based database for DRR.

2.The session also captures sector contribution to DRR and disaster management in the city though at different levels. This session focused on understanding activities and policy activities supporting DRR in each sector. The sectors agreed to share sector policies, plans, programmes, strategies and legislations for analysis and gap identification in response to DRR in Nairobi City County.

The Directorate of Environment and Natural Resources is implementing activities that contribute to DRR in the city though it rely on the other organizations to access relevant information e.g. weather and climate information from the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) in order to design and plan for instance flood proof activities in the city. The Directorate has plan to put in place department in charge of climate change issues within the city as a strategy way to build resilience of the City.

The Directorate also contribute to disaster prevention and management at the city by making sure that investment and entities complied to the environmental impact assessment (EIA) and Environmental Audit (EA) as provided for in the national Environmental Coordination and Management Act (Revised) 2015. EIA & EA process stipulates the need to identify potential environmental impacts and possible solutions. The Directorate undertake community sensitization on city solid waste management among its citizens and investors. The structural activities undertaken by the Directorate to control floods in the city include opening drainage channels and removal of waste that would block drainage system and contribute to collection of uncontrolled water that threaten the neighborhoods.

3. The Urban Renewal, Housing and project Management sector is touted as the most disaster prone sector in the City due to damage caused in terms of human loss and displacement, and economic loss due to floods, and fires, which occur. The sector acknowledged that flood is the most common hazard due to heavy rains and inefficient drainage system. The hazards they have been able to identify include prevalence of diseases like malaria, cholera, respiratory tract infection, typhoid, HIV & AIDS, COVID-19. The other hazards include the unplanned and natural fires, civil disobedience/disorder, poor construction, arson, electric faults, and noncompliance to fire regulation in market and residential places.

4. The sector contribute to disaster risks prevention through access to the early warning system by the public, promoting safety and hygiene, supporting policy-action e.g. on fire outbreak prepared and response, training community teams on fire safety, enforcement of regulations in liaison with the disaster management unit especially through severe penalties, promotion of fire safety among the public, jointly with the disaster management unit, they are establishing fire fighting equipment in strategic locations in the city.

5. The sector develops policies jointly with the health department to prevent and contain diseases. The infrastructure they rely on include the referral hospitals, mapping of diseases hotspots, strengthening of disease surveillance, education and awareness creation among the public, promotion of HIV/AIDS tests through Voluntary Counselling and Testing Centers (VCTs), positioning of emergency kits for health and campaign for behavior change, which is being strengthened in this time of COVID-19.

6. The sector' vision is to strategize to deal with disaster from policy (accessible and sustainable) to program approach. The goa of the sector is to ensure safer resilient and sustainable sector. The sector envision to foster linkage with the disaster management unit and other sectors and stakeholders to promote integration of DRR into all development in the city. The sector also envision establishing funds for DRR programmes.

The Sub- County administration' mandate is to be in charge of subcounty and Ward units in the City. Its vision is focused on civic education among the citizens to understand and contribute to the city development activities. It coordinates the county government' functions at subcounty and Ward level. The sector contribute to disaster management through operationalization of public participation guidelines and policies to guide the public functions bringing together public officials, citizens and stakeholders. At the various administrative units, the department identify various disasters through public participation where citizens identify hazards and risks. They also facilitate disaster mapping and disaster prone areas.

Agriculture, Land-Use and forestry is undertaking soil and water conservation through tree planting, tree management e.g. pruning of overgrown branches and cutting of old trees that pose danger to the public, issuance of permit for tree cutting, ensuring reforestation, public campaign to plant more trees, etc. The sector; activities towards preventing hazards and risks is guided by national and city policies, which include urban and p-peri-urban agriculture policy, sector Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for disaster management e.t.c.

Share both analyzed and raw data and information necessary to DRR integration into sectors in the City

The city officials acknowledged the limited and scattered data and information has a key factor that lead to making of plans and policy frameworks with insufficient evidence. However, they agreed to join forces to retrieve, collect and share data sets and information relevant for this research as requested by the Hub's researchers. The City will liaise with the National Archives to retrieve stored data and information because governments store information for 7 years then forward to the National Archives for storage and future access. The officials were taken through the data and information framework to help them collect and avail as much data and information as possible.

Assessment and review of City' sector policies, legislations, regulations, plans, programs and strategies to understand the extent to which they have integrated DRR

Overall, the city has put in substantive effort to prepare the city to be proactive through enactment of the city emergency and disaster management Act (2015) and drafting of a plan and a policy on disaster management. However, even the city officials acknowledged that is insufficient to help the city to detect, plan, prepare and contained various disaster risks facing Nairobi City. The Act has to be reviewed with critical input from the research as well as the finalization of the plan and the policy. The sectors present still used national and city led policies and legislations to carry out their mandates. The officials acknowledged that the Constitution of Kenya (2010) empower them to enact and formulate city-led policy and regulatory framework towards DRR as set out in global to national policy and regulatory frameworks. They acknowledged this process is timely because sectors present are either working or almost to start sector specific and city-led policy formulation, which then create opportunity to integrate DRR and realign with the anticipated review of the Act (2015) and draft plan and policy. The sector officials identified this opportunity as a potential pathway to effectively integrate DRR into sector policies and sectors into the overall city DRR process.

Key highlights

So far, the NCCG Sector-DRR consultations and policy discussions has yielded the following:

- How sectors define disaster risks and disaster management: some sectors define it from the sector mandate or regular experience with disaster risks like fire and floods and emerging pandemics like Covid-19
- Sectors are at different levels in integration of DRR from policy perspective: At least 10 sectors (Urban Planning; Education, Social Services and Gender; Public Service Management; Security and Compliance; Land; Internal Audit & Risk Management; Environment & Natural Resources; Commerce, Trade & Industrialization and Tourism) have develop SOPs. These SOPs still need review to realign with Kenya's SOP Guideline, 2014 & SFDRR. Sectors have sector policies which will need to be analyzed to assess their level of preparedness and potential contribution to DRR in the city. Sectors need to be integrated in the review of the Act, 2015, review of draft policy and plan to effectively contribute to integrated city led DRR plan, legislation and policy.
- Sectors have some data and information relevant to the research but even those available aren't centralized or might have been transferred to the national archives. The sectors who have participated so far are aware of the data and information and policy documents expected from them.
- Sectors' capacity need to be built and enhanced on how to effectively contribute to the development of an integrated city led DRR plan, legislation and policy.
- Sectors are passionate to participate and contribute to the research: the regular sector consultation has become part of awareness creation and capacity building platform to the sectors.

Challenges

At least 2 sector representatives could not contribute actively due to poor connectivity from their end but they promised to participate in the upcoming City sector-DRR policy consultations

Way forward

The capacity building framework for the officials need to capture different levels of their understanding of DRR in order to ensure each individual and groups are catered for and none is left behind in understanding disaster risk and management. The training need to cover from basics especially for the support sectors and advance for the disaster management unit staff

There is need to review the sector SOPs to ensure they are realigned not only with the national SOP guideline (2014) but also SFDRR and other global and regional DRR related policy frameworks. The remaining sectors need to be supported to finalize their sector SOPs for disaster management.

Sectors need to liaise and ensure regular consultation in order to ensure data needs are understood and accessed efficiently and timely. The city team led by Brian will reach out to the National Archives and partners to retrieve appropriate data and information. This process also highlights capacity need on data and information management among the city officials.

- The city officials and the Hub' researchers have built a strong partnership and linkage that needs to be strengthened through regular formal and informal dialogues, consultations and peer-to-peer learning. The city officials will be incorporated in the recommended Tomorrow's Cities webinars as part of strengthening learning and linkage with the cities.