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**DEPARTMENT OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT AFFAIRS**

**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROJECT**

***Enhancing National and Local Capacity in Disaster Risk Reduction in Malawi***

Second Quarter Progress & Financial Report

1st April to 30th June 2011

**1. BACKGROUND**

The Disaster Risk Reduction Project (Enhancing National and Local Capacity in Disaster Risk Reduction in Malawi) started in June 2008 and is now in its third year of implementation. The Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) is the lead implementing institution in partnership with relevant Government Ministries and Departments, NGOs and UN agencies in Malawi. The project is being funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The project aims to support the development of government institutions, civil society organizations and UN agencies’ capacities by:

1. Strengthening legal and institutional framework for disaster risk reduction.
2. Strengthening preparedness and contingency planning process in selected vulnerable districts.
3. Capacity development and training.

This quarterly report covers the period 1st April to 30th June, 2011.

1. **PROGRESS BY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS**

# Output 2.2.1: Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and institutional framework including planning mechanisms, regulations and new or amended legislation is put in place by 2011.

1. **Held second national stakeholders consultative workshop on the development of the DRM Policy.**

The Department held the second national stakeholders consultative workshop on the development of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy at Capital Hotel in Lilongwe from 30th to 31st May 2011. The workshop was held to present the draft policy to national level stakeholders and enable them make an input into the policy. During the workshop, a number of proposals and comments were made that have been included in the draft policy. The consultants have submitted the final draft policy and the department has circulated the draft to all stakeholders for final comments.

1. **Monitored NGOs VCPC consultations on the DRM Policy in Mzimba, Nkhatabay, Ntcheu and Chikhwawa districts.**

The department monitored the consultation process which was carried out by non-governmental organization (NGO) on the development of the policy at village level from 11th to 15th April 2011. The purpose of the monitoring exercise was to have an understanding of issues which village level stakeholders wanted to include in the policy. The department also wanted to have first hand information on perceptions of communities on the policy. Evangelical Association of Malawi, Concern Universal, World Vision International, Emmanuel International and CPAR conducted the consultations in Chikhwawa, Ntcheu, Mzimba, Zomba and Nkhatabay districts, respectively. In all districts, the NGOs carried out the consultations as agreed in the terms of reference. The consultations followed the guidelines that were outlined by the consultant and targeted the intended stakeholders at the village level.

Communities were supportive of the policy and felt it was long overdue. Most of the issues raised by the communities were similar to those that had been raised by other stakeholders at district and area levels. The NGOs submitted reports of the consultation process and the input from the communities.

1. **Held a workshop to prepare for the national stakeholders sensitization workshop on operational guidelines as well as develop ToRs for technical sub-committees and the DRM Platform**

The department held a preparatory workshop on the stakeholder sensitization on the Operational Guidelines for DRM in Dowa on 1st and 2nd April 2011. The aim of the workshop was to finalize some components in the Operational Guidelines, before the national sensitization workshop. At the end of the workshop, terms of reference were developed for each of the technical sub-committee as well as the DRM Platform, as proposed in the draft DRM Policy. The workshop also developed draft standing operating procedures to be used during disaster events that would be a component of the Operational Guidelines. The workshop also agreed on the agenda and process for the consultations.

**2.2 Output 2.2.3 Capacity is built at national and sub-national levels for effective integration of disaster risk reduction and emergency management into development planning by 2011**

1. **Attended the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**

The PS/Commissioner for Disaster Management Affairs, the Coordinator for Disaster Preparedness, Relief and Rehabilitation and the DRR Advisor attended the Third Session of the Global platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva, Switzerland, from 8th to 13th May 2011. The Third Session addressed three key themes: Recovering and Reducing Risks after Disasters; Understanding the Economics of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Strengthening Alliances for Climate Change Adaptation and Development. It included five high level panel discussions; two informal plenary segments; 14 roundtable discussions whose outcomes fed into the Chair’s Summary; a number of featured events, including a briefing of the Global Assessment Report and a report of the Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action; a dialogue with parliamentarians and mayors; and discussions on education and safe schools.

The Mid-Term HFA review indicated that while much progress had been made in achieving priorities 1 and 5, not much progress had been made in addressing priority 4 which is about reducing underlying risk factors. The department has been informing NGOs and District Commissioners to prioritise mitigation activities that focus on reducing underlying risk factors so that the country makes progress in addressing this priority.

1. **Monitored DRR activities being implemented by COOPI in Salima**

The Department was invited by COOPI to monitor disaster risk reduction activities that the organization is implementing in Salima district. The aim of the visit was to appreciate the effectiveness of different DRR interventions that COOPI is undertaking in Salima district. The monitored activities included community irrigation projects, construction of grain silos and community-based early warning system for floods. What was fascinating was that communities that are implementing irrigation agricultural activities are trying to be self sufficient by using funds they get after selling their crops to assist households in the area that are affected by floods before outside assistance comes.

**2.3 Output 2.2.2 Disaster risk reduction is incorporated in key government policies, relevant UN programmes and school and professional training curricula for improved safe behavior practices and implemented by 2011**

1. **Participated in the review of standard 1 and 2 curricula**

The department participated in the review of standard 1 and 2 instructional materials at the Malawi Institute of Education (MIE) in Zomba. The exercise was carried out in two phases. The first one covered standard 1 instructional materials followed by standard 2 materials. It was observed that it was difficult to include DRM issues at standard 1, considering the level as well as the subjects. Much input, therefore, went into standard 2 materials. DRM issues were incorporated into a number of subjects, such as Bible Knowledge, Religious Education, Mathematics, Literacy and Language and Life Skills. However, DRM has a greater relevance to Life Skills in standard 2.. The standard 1 review exercise was done from 4th to 14th April 2011 while the standard 2 exercise was done from 9th to 20th May 2011.

**3.0 OBSERVATIONS**

There are a number of observations to be made with regard to implementation of some activities in the quarter:

1. Some activities that were to be implemented were implemented using non-project funds. For instance, the workshop on Making Social Protection Work for Pro-poor Disaster Risk Reduction which was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 14th – 17th March 2011 was funded by the organizers instead of using project funds. A civil society consultation meeting on the DRM policy was also conducted using civil society funding rather than the project.
2. Attending the Third Session of the Global Platform for DRR in Geneva, Switzerland from 8th -13th May 2011 was not included in the first quarter work plan as it was a 2nd quarter activity. Since there was no request for funding in the second quarter due to the fact that first quarter funds were received late, the department used funds that were not used for the civil society consultation meeting to attend the Global Platform.
3. Participation in the review of standard 1 and 2 curricula was not included in the first quarter work plan. However, the department participated after being informed by MIE that the activity would take place in the second quarter using funds that were not used for the workshop on Making Social Protection Work for Pro-poor Disaster Risk Reduction.
4. Sensitization workshops on the Operational Guidelines could not be carried out because there were some changes that were to be made to the guidelines, in line with the draft policy. These included the development of ToRs for the technical committees and the DRM National Platform. These have been produced and national stakeholder sensitization on the operational guidelines will be held from 18th – 19th July 2011.

**4.0 CHALLENGE**

The department did not receive funding during this quarter. This was so because the department was still undertaking first quarter activities as funding for the first quarter was received late in March, 2011. This meant that activities which were meant to be undertaken in the second quarter as per the annual work plan were not undertaken. These will be undertaken in the third quarter.

**4.0 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE SECOND QUARTER**

Table 1 shows the Disaster Risk Reduction expenditure for the second quarter. The total expenditure for the second quarter was **MK6, 440, 292.00.**

| **DATE (2011)** | **ACTIVITY** | **COST (MK)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1-2 April 2011 | Held a workshop to prepare for the national stakeholders sensitization workshop on operational guidelines as well as develop ToRs for technical sub-committees and the DRM Platform. | 108, 000.00 |
| 12 -15 April 2011 | Monitored NGOs VCPC consultations on the DRM Policy in Mzimba, Nkhatabay, Ntcheu and Chikhwawa districts. | 313, 000.00 |
| 4-14 April 9-20 May  | Participated in the review of standards 1 and 2 curricula. | 835, 000.00 |
| 1 May 2011 | Monitored DRR activities being implemented by COOPI in Salima. | 60, 000.00 |
| 8-13 May  | Attended the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. | 2, 703, 222.00 |
| 30-31 May | Held second national stakeholders consultative workshop on the development of the DRM Policy. | 2, 421, 070.00 |
| **TOTAL** |  | **6, 440, 292.00** |

1. **Planned Activities during the Third Quarter (July - September)**

The following are the activities that have been planned to be implemented in the third quarter, from July to September 2011.

1. Hold a DRM Policy Task Force meeting to review draft DRM Policy.
2. Present the draft Disaster Risk Management Policy to the National Disaster Preparedness and Relief Committee.
3. Review the disaster risk management strategic plan (SP) to produce the 2011 – 2016 SP.
4. Hold a national knowledge sharing workshop on best practices with all stakeholders implementing DRM activities.
5. Hold Sector working group coordination meeting.
6. Conduct DRR quiz in primary schools in 15 districts (Nsanje, Chikhwawa, Blantyre, Zomba, Phalombe, Mangochi, Machinga, Balaka, Ntcheu, Dedza, Salima, Nkhotakota, Nkhatabay, Rumphi and Karonga).
7. Attend training on proposal development and project monitoring and evaluation at the Malawi Institute of Management.
8. Assist 8 district councils to develop multi-hazard contingency plans (Balaka, Ntcheu, Rumphi, Blantyre, Zomba, Nkhotakota, Dedza and Machinga district councils).
9. Conduct district stakeholders sensitization workshops on the Operational Guidelines for Disaster Risk and review assessment tools, targeting all 28 districts.
10. Conduct monitoring of disaster risk management programmes being implemented by civil society organizations in Karonga, Salima, Ntcheu, Balaka, Blantyre, Mangochi, Chikhwawa and Nsanje.
11. Conduct learning visits for Civil Protection Committees from Chikhwawa and Nsanje to Karonga district.
12. Hold final evaluation workshop on the DRR Mainstreaming project.
13. Hold Project Management Committee meeting.