

**Proposal to Improve  
National Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Plan with Local Community as Centre**

**Targets;**

1. Four kinds of immediate events with serious impacts on life and property: flood and land and mud slide, tropical cyclone, earthquake, and tsunami
2. Three kinds of predictable and frequent events that affect a large number of people: flood, drought, and forest fire and haze (or smog)

**Goals:** For local communities and civil volunteers in every district and province with natural disaster risk areas to have potentials, preparedness and ability to manage disasters in their localities by themselves and work together as networks in a mutually supporting manner.

**Objectives**

1. To determine areas at the district level with natural disaster risks of one or several kinds and to warn the local community in advance of a possible incident.
2. To promote and encourage the establishment of networks capable of managing natural disasters at the district level as well as mechanisms for developing the potentials of civic volunteers at the provincial level in every target area
3. To develop necessary warning and communication systems at every level before, during, and after the event
4. To develop an effective logistic system for mitigation and rehabilitation purposes, nationally and locally, in the target provincial/district areas
5. To promote joint working between the public sector, private sector, mass media, army, and people sector in the handling and management of natural disasters with local community as centre

**Operational tactics and activity framework**

1. **Accurate and comprehensive determination of risk areas at the district level**

**1.1 Prevention and Mitigation**

- 1.1.1 Develop natural disaster database systems at national, provincial, and local levels as well as keeping them up-to-date, efficient and digital.
- 1.1.2 Use the past information on the seven types of natural disasters in Thailand as a basis for determining and identifying individual disaster risk areas at the district level.
- 1.1.3 To notify and warn target provinces and districts in advance in a proper manner.
- 1.1.4 To use public relations and communicate through public media to inform the people and local community in the target area and raise their awareness as widely as possible.

## **1.2 Preparedness**

- 1.2.1 Put in place the process of networking local communities throughout the districts in the target area to handle natural disasters according to their types in a specific manner.
- 1.2.2 Encourage the process aimed at developing disaster-specific plans and Total Warfare Strategy of the local community networks in every target district with a special emphasis on participation and raising of strong social awareness.
- 1.2.3 Develop projects and request budgets from public agencies, local administrative organizations, and civic society as may be required for implementation.

## **1.3 Response and Relief**

- 1.3.1 Develop and install GIS, MIS and other communications for operational use, ensuring inter-connectivity at local, regional and central levels.

## **1.4 Rehabilitation and Reconstruction**

- 1.4.1 Put in place mechanisms to facilitate the process of learning synthesis, exchange of experiences, and knowledge management for further development.

## **2. Promotion of natural disaster management networking at the district level and support mechanisms at the provincial level**

### **2.1 Prevention and Mitigation**

- 2.1.1 Promote the role and physical aspects of the coordinating centre for local community networks and the civil society sector in the target districts and provinces in a proper manner, providing easy access for the public, developing a database system and registry of volunteers and current local community organizations, equipped with a working group or team to coordinate with the networks, and ensuring an efficient internal communication system.
- 2.1.2 Inspect the readiness of plans/projects and availability of budget to support the implementation on an on-going basis.
- 2.1.3 Develop maps of risk areas, safe areas, and shelters, as well as developing community evacuation plans.
- 2.1.4 Develop and disseminate manuals for the people so that they can handle and manage by themselves the natural disaster when it occurs.
- 2.1.5 Organize local training or provide knowledge on disasters in the education system.

### **2.2 Preparedness**

- 2.2.1 Advocate operation plans for warning and public evacuation and practice drills.
- 2.2.2 Set the guidelines and role of local warning centres, decentralizing the responsibility and allocating appropriate roles to people doing the warning in an appropriate manner.
- 2.2.3 Check the readiness of the communication systems and broadcasting in the locality.
- 2.2.4 Prepare rescue teams and workers including equipment, tools, maps, coordinates, and other necessary items.

## **2.3 Response and Relief**

- 2.3.1 Support rescue volunteer operational networks at the district/sub-district level and coordinate rescue with professional organizations at provincial, national and international levels.
- 2.3.2 Manage the go-down system (temporary or semi-permanent) in the locality to keep relief items and oversee the transport and distribution system.
- 2.3.3 Develop the coordinating system with networks in nearby districts/provinces and outside areas.

## **2.4 Rehabilitation and Reconstruction**

- 2.4.1 Expand the role of the networks of the Community Welfare Fund and those from other provinces such as Village Fund and Community Savings Fund.
- 2.4.2 Develop the community insurance system.
- 2.4.3 Develop the coordination system and request support from public agencies and national/international non-governmental organizations.

## **3. Development of the Warning System and Public Communication System**

### **3.1 Prevention and Impact Reduction**

- 3.1.1 Check or review the appointment of national experts and set the role/function of the warning centres.
- 3.1.2 Promote and support the roles of academic organizations and institutional networks and National Disaster Information Centre from both public and private sectors so that they can develop their capability and link their information to warning mechanisms at the central, regional and local levels.
- 3.1.3 Provide specific frequency waves, one for national television, one for national AM and FM radio, and one for radio communication.
- 3.1.4 Plan the development of the warning system and networks to enable them to link nationally, regionally and locally throughout the country.
- 3.1.5 Develop national capability in early natural disaster warning with specific timeframes as follows:
  - (1) For immediate natural disasters**
    - The tsunami within 2 hours
    - Flood/land and mud slide within 3 days
    - Tropical cyclone within 5 days
    - Earthquake, warning 12 hours before the aftershock
  - (2) For predictable natural disasters**
    - Big flood within 2 weeks
    - Drought within 2 months
    - Haze and smog within 1 month
- 3.1.6 Have in place warning operation plans at national level
- 3.1.7 Assign roles and functions and decentralize the authorization of local warning to local areas/locality.

### **3.2 Response and Relief**

- 3.2.1 Transform warning communication networks at every level into communication for relief purposes

### **3.3 Rehabilitation and Reconstruction**

- 3.3.1 Act as centres for receiving donated items and assistance for local community rehabilitation after the incident.
- 3.3.2 Have in place a system of knowledge management for long-term development.

## **4. Development of Relief Logistic System**

### **4.1 Prevention and Impact Reduction**

- 4.1.1 Have in place disaster relief plans at the national level.
- 4.1.2 Have in place funds at the national level to promote and support disaster-related activities/projects of the community and develop the work system to support natural disaster management with local communities as centres in all dimensions.
- 4.1.3 Have in place permanent relief logistic centres at the national level as well as relief logistic centres at the provincial/district levels for target areas, which can be temporary or permanent as the case may be.
- 4.1.4 Have in place centres to handle natural disasters, database systems and updated registry of volunteers/non-profit organizations

### **4.2 Preparedness**

- 4.2.1 Coordinate and link with the national warning centre, Thai Meteorological Department, experts, academic institutions, and main radio stations/television channels that can provide prompt information and early warning.
- 4.2.2 Coordinate and link with radio/television stations and ensure that the radio communication system is ready for operation at the time of crisis.
- 4.2.3 Coordinate public and private telephone service centres for roaming telephone signals across domestic service networks in case of emergency.
- 4.2.4 Prepare equipments, tools, maps, coordinates and other necessary items.

### **4.3 Response and Relief**

- 4.3.1 Provide and install a transport system, vehicle networks (land-water-air) for transport and distribution.
- 4.3.2 Promote the work of national/international non-profit and rescue organizations as well as links at the local level.
- 4.3.3 Develop contact/coordination/support systems between provinces, regions and central authorities.
- 4.3.4 Promote and expand the role of the Thai Red Cross, Raj Pracha Samasai Foundation, and other national relief organizations appropriately in all manners.
- 4.3.5 Develop the emergency medical system and rescue system.

### **4.4 Rehabilitation and Reconstruction**

- 4.4.1 Expand the role of the networks of National Community Fund, National Village and Urban Community Fund Office.
- 4.4.2 Coordinate assistance from the public sector and international organizations

## 5. **Promotion of Social Solidarity**

### 5.1 **Prevention and Impact Reduction**

5.1.1 Link national and local networks/disaster relief centres to enable them to work together “as a single unit” through a mutually supporting system.

5.1.2 Have in place a support mechanism in the form of an independent, transparent and efficient **National Fund**.

### 5.2 **Preparedness**

5.2.1 Coordinate plans and ensure preparedness for work between partners and networks.

5.2.2 Prepare resources, manpower, budget, machinery, equipment, vehicles, etc.

### 5.3 **Response and Relief**

5.3.1 Having in place an efficient joint operation centre

5.3.2 Coordinate information and knowledge as well as operational field networks between partners/networks.

5.3.3 Provide support on resources, manpower, budget, machinery, equipment, vehicles, etc.

### 5.4 **Rehabilitation and Reconstruction**

5.4.1 Have in place joint rehabilitation plans

5.4.2 Have a clear division of areas of responsibility and missions including what should be done separately or jointly.

5.4.3 Have in place a system of knowledge management.