

Bulgaria

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

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Outcomes for 2007-2009

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:

Main part of the prevention process is devoted to adequate emergency planning.

DG Fire Safety and Civil Protection develops the National disaster protection plan, which includes plans such as:

- Floods;
- Earthquakes;
- Snow storms;
- Petrol products spills;
- Fires;
- Industrial accidents;
- Nuclear accidents;
- Biological contamination;
- Terrorist acts.

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:

DG Fire Safety and Civil Protection, MoI conducts Trainings on external programs (volunteers, units of the Integrated Rescue System, experts from Headquarters for coordination in case of disasters), training of the population, organizing and conducting of national and international exercises and conducting scientific and methodological activities.

Municipal plans for disaster protection are developed.

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:

Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation. Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters and to undertake post events reviews.

Strategic goals

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:

According to Art. 5 from the Disaster Protection Law (DPL), the disaster protection is achieved by:

1. conducting preventive activities;
2. carrying out protection activities;
3. coordination of the actions of the Integrated Rescue System;
4. support and disaster recovery;
5. resource provision;
6. acceptance of aid.

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:

With the amendments of the Ministry of Interior Law (Promulg. Official Gazette, 9 November 2010) Civil Protection Directorate-General and Fire Safety and Rescue Directorate-General were incorporated into one Directorate-General named Fire Safety and Civil Protection.

In Article 52g of the Ministry of Interior Law are defined the tasks of the united Directorate-General:
(1) Fire Safety and Civil Protection DG is national specialized structure of the Ministry of Interior for ensuring fire safety, rescue and protection in case of disasters according to the terms and regulations of this law and the Disaster Protection Law.

The efficiency of the disaster risk reduction requires close cooperation with other organizations and authorities.

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:

Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation. Risk reduction principles of the recovery “build back better” and not recreate risk are adopted for the emergency recovery works because the financing is provided for sustainable recovery- overhaul, reconstruction or rebuilding performed in compliance of a Detailed or a Technical works design project according The Spatial Development Act.

The prevention activities are financed from the national budget from its part for contingencies reserve for prevention and mitigation of the impact of disasters.

Priority for action 1

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

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

* No: Climate change policy and strategy

* No: Poverty reduction strategy papers

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

Description:

According to Art. 9 from the Disaster Protection Law:

(1) planning of disaster protection is carried out at municipal, regional and national level. (2) For the activity under par.1 executive authorities draw up plans for disaster protection.

Council of Ministers forms the disaster public protection policy;

adopt a National Plan for Disaster Protection and National Action Plan for carrying out of rescue and emergency recovery activities.

Context & Constraints:

- Financial support for disaster risk reduction activities is not sufficient at local level;

- Difficulties in engaging all the relevant stakeholders in a dialogue that will help to make the DRR a national priority.

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?

Yes

Means of verification:

* 0 % allocated from national budget

* 0 USD allocated from overseas development assistance fund

* 0 USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)

* 0 USD allocated to stand alone DRR investments (e.g. DRR institutions, risk assessments, early warning systems)

* 0 USD allocated to disaster proofing post disaster reconstruction

Description:

The emergency plans on a community and municipality level are developed. Preventive measures in case of distinct disasters and accidents are included in the Plans. The Plans consist of activities for disaster's risk reduction and resources for their implementation.

Context & Constraints:

Budget constraints, not enough disaster risk reduction capacity in the country to support the efforts of the relevant stakeholders

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:

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

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

-- not complete --

Means of verification:

* No: Legislation

* No: Budget allocations for DRR to local government

Description:

Community emergency plans with respective preventive measures and resource allocation are developed in case of disaster or accident in municipality area.

Voluntary units formed and trained by the supervision of the municipality authority could participate in the process of averting, rescuing and mitigation of the emergency (as it is pointed in the Disaster Protection Law).

Context & Constraints:

lack of enough financial resources for training of the community;
Not enough capacity at local level

Priority for action 1: Core indicator 4

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

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

-- not complete --

Means of verification:

- * 0 civil society members (specify absolute number)
- * 0 sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)
- * 0 women's organisations participating in national platform (specify absolute number)

Description:

The preventive content of the National Program serves as a nationally owned mechanism for adopting of disaster risk reduction measures at all levels.

Bulgaria is trying to update its national platform and to include more relevant stakeholders so that it could become multisectoral.

Context & Constraints:

Although a lot of efforts have been made, there is still a lack of disaster risk reduction capacity and trained people to support the institutions.

Priority for action 2

Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

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:

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

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

Yes

Means of verification:

- * No: Multi-hazard risk assessment
- * 0 % of schools and hospitals assessed
- * 0 schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)
- * No: Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments
- * Yes: Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments

Description:

Manual for risk assessment of the potentially dangerous water objects and objects from the chemical industry and atomic energy is available.

Context & Constraints:

n.a.

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:

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

Are disaster losses systematically reported, monitored and analysed?

Yes

Means of verification:

* No: Disaster loss database

* Yes: Reports generated and used in planning

Description:

Chief Directorate Fire safety and Civil Protection has a National Operational Communication and Information center that is gathering all data related to hazards and disasters and support the decision makers.

Use of system RAMO and RODOS;

Integrated system for emergency management, developed database for resource security of the country

Context & Constraints:

not applicable

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

* No: Communication systems and protocols

* Yes: Active involvement of media in early warning dissemination

Description:

As of 09.2008 in Bulgaria is functioning a modern nationwide System for early warning and announcement in case of disaster. The system will have 2 subsystems:

- Subsystem 1 for announcement of authorities and the parts of Single Life-Saving Integrated Rescue System - with a capacity up to 28 000 officials with a possibility to be included all managerial levels - from the President to the lowest local level.
- Subsystem 2 (The Siren system) for early warning and announcement of the population of the country - covers 30 % of the population of the country and 5 % of its territory - the ten biggest cities.

Context & Constraints:

A big constraint is that 70 % of the population and 90 % of the territory of the country still use the old early warning and announcement system

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:

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

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

-- not complete --

Means of verification:

- * Yes: Programmes and projects addressing trans-boundary issues
- * No: Regional and sub-regional strategies and frameworks
- * Yes: Regional or sub-regional monitoring and reporting mechanisms
- * No: Action plans addressing trans-boundary issues

Description:

Close cooperation on risk reduction with all countries and relevant institutions in SEE; joint projects with the neighbouring countries on critical infrastructure protection.

bilateral agreements for cooperation in case of disasters with most of the neighbouring countries

Context & Constraints:

not applicable

Priority for action 3

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

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?

No

Means of verification:

* No: Web page of national disaster information system

* No: Established mechanisms for accessing DRR information

Description:

Regular information campaigns for awareness of the population about the main rules for reaction and protection in case of disasters;

Open doors days and events for celebrating the International Disaster Risk Reduction Day have been organized to promote the DRR efforts in the country

Context & Constraints:

Developing of closer cooperation between institutions related to disaster risk reduction is needed

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:

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

Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum?

Yes

Means of verification:

* Yes: Primary school curriculum

* Yes: Secondary school curriculum

* Yes: University curriculum

* No: Professional DRR education programmes

Description:

Teacher's book containing the methodology for effective modern methods for education on the disaster protection. The methodology includes 3 Teacher's books for every stage of education – elementary, secondary and high school.

2. out-of-school training activities for disasters protection:

- Republican school competition "Disaster and accidents protection", aiming at verifying the knowledge and skills acquired in the basic course, as well as encouraging the participants to continue their preparation for emergency reaction.

- National competition for children's drawings MISSION RESCUER, held together with the Ministry of Education and Science, National Palace of Children and the International competition MISSION RESCUER, hold under the auspices of EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement.

educational materials:

- for children in the kindergartens - a coloring book "About the disasters – main rules for kids", containing 10 rules for reaction in case of different disasters as well as boards and maps with educational aim.

- for children for secondary school educational boards and posters are created.

Context & Constraints:

Limited financial resources

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?

No

* No: Research outputs, products or studies

* Yes: Research programmes and projects

* No: Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR

Description:

Currently Mol works together with universities, Bulgarian Academy of Science, National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology on the DRR related topics.

Context & Constraints:

n.a.

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:

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

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:

Strategy for training activities for the population in the area of disaster protection. Training programs for number of target groups are drawn. At national level voluntary teams are established. Chief Directorate Fire safety and Civil Protection creates and fills the list of the voluntary teams for disaster protection and list of the instructors of the volunteers.

Context & Constraints:

After the incorporation of DG Civil Protection and DG Fire Safety and rescue, the voluntary formations will be also integrated so that to mitigate the duplication of functions and activities.

The migration of the working population from the small towns and villages to the big cities complicates the formation of voluntary units in territories remote from the regional services with professional firefighters and rescuers.

Priority for action 4

Reduce the underlying risk factors

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

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Preventive measures, which are invented on a basis of expertise, investigation and analysis, for possible avoiding and coping with natural disasters are subject of a National Program for protection in disasters.

Context & Constraints:

n.a.

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:

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

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

No

Means of verification:

- * No: 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:

n.a.

Context & Constraints:

n.a.

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:

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

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

-- not complete --

Means of verification:

- * No: National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.
- * No: Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals

Description:

Industrial plants and objects which are a part from the critical infrastructure of the state, develop their emergency plans for actions in a case of an accident. They develop as well off-site emergency plan, which becomes a part of the community emergency plan in municipality

Context & Constraints:

Annual trainings on the off-site emergency plans on local level with participation of municipality authorities, state rescue services and plant's emergency teams for improving the co-operation and co-ordination in a case of an accident are needed

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:

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

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

-- not complete --

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:

With regard to the territorial and urban planning measures, a Regulation have been drawn up. It is being updated and coordinated among all relevant ministries and structures and is to be adopted by Council of ministers soon. This regulation should solve the difficult problems concerning the urbanization and land use.

Context & Constraints:

building up of a unitary data base on territorial construction and passportization of the buildings.

Important problem for DRR to be sloved:

- use of modern construction technologies and requirements regarding the urbanization of the earthquake-prone regions ;
- keeping of the urban measures as far as it concerns conducting of emergency rescue and recovery works in case of building collapse, making of protective facilities and adjustment of underground garages and metrostations into protective facilities.

Priority for action 4: Core indicator 5

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

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

Yes

Means of verification:

* 0 % of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR

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

Description:

According to the rules in the Regulations for the organization and activities of the Committee the emergency recovery works are aimed to sustainable recovery- overhaul, reconstruction or rebuilding performed with a Detailed or Technical works design project.

In such way the risk reduction principles of the recovery “build back better” and not recreate risk are followed. The criteria adopted for rating the funding requests received for the emergency recovery works include risk assessment, incorporated in the category of the construction and the hazard of destruction or damage due to permanent diversion from normal operation.

Context & Constraints:

Development of a “Lessons learned” database and on its basis post disaster recovery and reconstruction norms and standards

Challenges encountered

- The recovery measures are restricted to the funding from the national budget.

Recommendations for overcoming the problem.

- Diversification of the financing sources for the recovery especially for the prevention activities by using resources from the Operations Programs and the Program for Rural Development.
- Increase of the amount of the funding from the national budget.
- Adoption of The National Disaster Protection program and the Annual Plan

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:

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

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

No

Means of verification:

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

* No: Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)

Description:

Building regulation to be adopted in order to solve the urban problems by the Council of Ministers;

Council Directive 2008/114/EC of 8 December 2008 on the identification and designation of European critical infrastructures and the assessment of the need to improve their protection has been implemented in the Bulgarian law.

Context & Constraints:

n.a.

Priority for action 5

Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels

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:

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

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

Yes

Means of verification:

* No: Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety

* Yes: Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness

Description:

Trainings at schools

Context & Constraints:

Strong commitment is needed.

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:

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

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

* No: Secure medical facilities

* No: Dedicated provision for women in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities

Description:

Regularly organized and hold exercises, training and workshops, followed by lessons learnt leading to improvement of disaster response plans.

National plan for disaster protection is available. Ministers and the other management bodies within their jurisdiction operate in accordance with security protection plans, control the implementation of protection measures in the field regulated or managed by them, maintain stand-by assets and ensure participation of subordinate structures as a part of the Integrated Rescue System (IRS) in accordance with the plans.

Context & Constraints:

More financial resources are needed for the development of modern and DRR related programmes

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:

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

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:

There are financial reserves and contingency mechanisms in place to support effective response and recovery. The financial resource is the funding from the national budget, earmarked for preventing, bringing under control and overcoming the impact of disasters. The funding is provided for several divisions including:

-prevention activities

-covering contingencies with regard to rescue and emergency repair works in events of disaster, incurred by the forces and means of the integrated rescue system, which were engaged via operational communications centers;

-emergency recovery works;

-recovery assistance;

-compensation for natural and legal persons for damages actually caused to them during or with regard to performance of legally prescribed disaster protection activities.

Context & Constraints:

The recovery measures are restricted to the funding from the national budget. The percentage of financing for the emergency works is 25% from the total requests received which is an evidence of financial shortage.

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:

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

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

-- not complete --

Means of verification:

* No: Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available

* Yes: Post disaster need assessment methodologies

* No: Post disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects

* Yes: Identified and trained human resources

Description:

. An Interagency Relief and Recovery Committee is established with the Council of Ministers and headed by the Minister of Interior. The Committee adopts decisions for disbursement of special purpose funds from the national budget, d for preventing, bringing under control and overcoming the impact of disasters.

The terms, documents and rules regarding the requests for financing are set in The Regulations for the organization and activities of the Committee.

The procedures for exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters are in the competency of Recovery and Relief Unit to the Chief Directorate Fire safety and Civil protection, Mol

Context & Constraints:

More resources for financing are needed as the national budget is not sufficient.

Drivers of Progress

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

Levels of Reliance:

No/ little reliance: no acknowledgement of the issue in policy or practice; or, there is some acknowledgement but nothing/ little done to address it

Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?:

No

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

n.a.

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

Levels of Reliance:

No/ little reliance: no acknowledgement of the issue in policy or practice; or, there is some acknowledgement but nothing/ little done to address it

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

n.a.

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):

Participation in international trainings for disaster risk reduction. Bulgaria has a regional trainer for DRR for South-Eastern Europe, part of a joint project of DPPI, MSB and CADRI.

Very active participation in international exercises, and trainings of the European civil protection training programme. The existing capacity is further trained and improved.

d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities

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 Chief Directorate Fire Safety and Civil protection aim is to ensure the protection of the population in case of “wartime” or “emergency situation” in compliance with the Geneva Conventions

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

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):

Very good cooperation with the Bulgarian Red Cross and some other NGOs.

Close cooperation with all state administration authorities, local governments and private companies.

The Disaster Protection Law and the Ministry of Interior Law - 2006 set up an Integrated Rescue system and regulate:

Establishment of an Integrated Rescue System;

Participation of population, institutions and companies;

Declaring of “state of disaster”, support and recreation;

Functions of the bodies of the Executive authorities and the basic functions, tasks and duties of the employees from Ministry of Interior – Fire Services and Protection of the Population teams; relief and reconstruction

Disaster Protection Act defines Fire Safety and Protection of the Population DG as a fundamental structures of the INTEGRATED RESCUE SYSTEM in case of major disasters (Art. 22).

f) Contextual Drivers of Progress

Levels of Reliance:

No/ little reliance: no acknowledgement of the issue in policy or practice; or, there is some acknowledgement but nothing/ little done to address it

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

n.a.

Future outlook

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:

Integration of DRR in the development policies and planning is still challenging. Legal statute of DRR efforts is needed.

Future Outlook Statement:

Efforts for integration of DRR at all levels

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:

The main challenge for the future reporting period will be the update and improvement of the Bulgarian national Platform for DRR and including of all relevant stakeholders.

Future Outlook Statement:

Capacity for Disaster risk reduction development. Courses for managers , experts and volunteers to be organized for DRR topics.

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:

to improve the mechanisms for coordination between local and central authorities.

Future Outlook Statement:

The coordination between local and central authorities will be improved through relevant legislation acts and measures in the field of prevention, training and exercises

Stakeholders

Departments/organizations that have contributed to the report

* Ministry of Interior (Gov) - Antoaneta Boycheva, Head of Unit