



# RESILIENCE

"Promoting a culture of prevention, mitigation and preparedness"

## NDMA Newsletter

Vol: 1 Issue # 1, January 2010

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## COVER STORY

### Early caution by NDMA averts large catastrophe in Hunza

Nearly 13 people were killed in a mass movement of terrain and landslide at village Ata'abad in District Hunza Nagar, Gilgit-Baltistan on January 4, 2010. Another 05 persons were injured while 06 went missing in the low lying Sarat village. Due to the landslide, 1655 persons were displaced, while 25,000 people in upper Hunza have been cut off from the rest of the country due to a 3 km blockage of Karakoram Highway. A 10 km wide lake has been formed due to the blockage of the Hunza River, threatening the low lying areas.



*An outburst of dust clouds due to the landslide*

It is worth mentioning that the eastern part of Ata'abad village was declared as hazardous area by the NDMA, in September, 2009. The early warning was made on the basis of a study conducted by the NDMA, through the Geological Survey of Pakistan and some 103 families of Ata'abad were evacuated and shifted to a safer place well before the incident. This helped in saving precious human lives to a significant level.



*View of the damaged houses*

The NDMA immediately responded by deploying the specialized Search and Rescue Team, equipped with sophisticated search cameras and a canine component by helicopters. This helped in extending crucial technical support to the local administration, volunteers, scouts and other agencies involved in the search and rescue operation from 5th to 8th January, 2010.

NDMA initially deployed four helicopters for response. Provision of shelter and food have been provided to the affected population. As of 3 February, over 5086 people including 252 students have been transported with the help of 560 helicopter sorties and other means. The NDMA also established a Control Room manned by its Operation Team, to help the local authorities in organizing relief and rescue, monitoring and coordinating efforts to re-open the KKH and Hunza River, ensuring robust civil-military coordination and aviation efforts.

The Chairman, NDMA remained at the site during the initial three days of the incident, and later for a week from 27th January to supervise all operations and tasked all relevant agencies to establish an effective coordination mechanism. He also visited the artificial lake formed at Hunza River near the disaster hit Ata'abad village On 28 January 2010. He directed the concerned authorities to expedite work on breaching the artificial dam.



*Chairman NDMA, Lt. Gen. (R) Farooq Ahmad Khan being briefed about excavation work at Hunza river blockage site*

Pictures courtesy: www.pamirtimes.com

## Message from Chairman, NDMA

It is yet another milestone and matter of immense pleasure for the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to launch “Resilience”, a monthly newsletter on disaster risk management.



Over the last 3 years, since its establishment, NDMA has initiated a number of initiatives to strengthen the Disaster Risk Management System in Pakistan. One of the initiatives is to enhance the knowledge of different stakeholders, including the decision maker and at-risk-communities in order to promote a culture of safety and prevention.

The aim of launching the newsletter is to bridge the information gap between the different stakeholders and to raise awareness about the work being undertaken in Pakistan on disaster risk management. It also aims to provide information about developments and best practices in the field of disaster risk management in other parts of the world.

This is the first of many initiatives planned by the Media Cell at NDMA. I wish the Media Cell success in this endeavour and hope that the launch of the newsletter would supplement the efforts of the NDMA for safe, secure and prosperous Pakistan.

*Lt Gen Farooq Ahmad Khan (R)*

## Message from Senior Member, NDMA

The launching of a monthly Newsletter by the NDMA is yet another effort on its part to keep the public as well as the decision makers abreast of the contemporary developments and trends in the field of disaster management, home and abroad. It will not only be a mouthpiece of the NDMA, but also an instrument for raising public awareness about disasters and their management.



Given the multitude of disaster risk vulnerabilities that the country is exposed to, it is high time that arrangements be made for systematic sharing of information about disaster risks and their management. The launching of “Resilience” is one of the several initiatives being undertaken by the NDMA to achieve the said purpose. Through this newsletter, the NDMA seeks to provide the interface between the Authority and other stakeholders to share ideas, information and best practices in the field of disaster management and help develop synergized policies and strategies for promoting a culture of safety and resilience in the country.

I wish the Media Cell and the editorial board success in their endeavors.

*Shaukat N. Tahir*

## Editor's Note

*The natural disasters such as floods, storms, environmental pollution, desertification, landslides, among others, are increasing in the world. In addition to this, human induced disasters also have resulted in loss of human lives and property. This has exposed millions of people to multitude of disaster risks. There is a dire need to provide adequate information to the general public by highlighting the risks and hazards. Sensitization of the masses regarding disasters would lead preparedness and to take action to reduce their risks.*

*The NDMA has traveled a long way in the last three years in getting the new system of disaster preparedness and mitigation operational in Pakistan. For this Disaster Management Authorities at the Provincial and District level have been formed, various contingency plans have been made and two Urban Search & Rescue teams have been raised and equipped to deal with disasters in the country.*

*One of the nine priority areas identified in the National Disaster Management Framework is awareness-raising at different levels. This monthly newsletter is being launched with an aim to provide the readers a brief insight regarding efforts of the NDMA for strengthening DRM in Pakistan and to capture best practices from around the world.*

*We also expect that the activities covered in this first issue of the newsletter would offer an informative and educational reading to you. We also look forward to your feedback and suggestions which, besides being a source of encouragement for us, will help us to improve the quality of our efforts.*

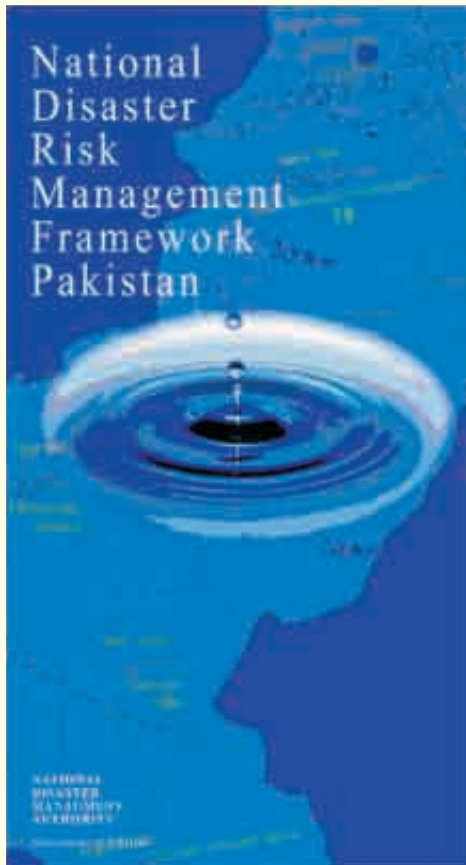


*Chief Editor*

### National Strategy for Disaster Management

Pakistan is vulnerable to disaster risks from a range of hazards including avalanches, cyclones/storms, droughts, earthquakes, epidemics, floods, glacial lake outbursts, landslides, pest attacks, river erosion and tsunamis. Human induced hazards that threaten the country include transport and industrial accidents, oil spills, urban and forest fires, civil conflicts and internal displacements of communities due to multiple factors. High priority hazards in terms of their frequency and scale of impact are: - earthquakes, droughts, flooding, wind storms and landslides that have caused widespread damages and losses in the past.

A reactive, emergency response approach has remained the predominant way of dealing with disasters in Pakistan till now. The Calamity Act of 1958 was mainly concerned with organizing emergency response. A system of Relief Commissionerate at the provincial level was established. An Emergency Relief Cell (ERC) in the Cabinet Secretariat was responsible for organizing disaster response by the federal government. The awareness of policy makers, media, civil society, NGOs, UN agencies and other stakeholders remained low about disaster risk management and the Country as a whole lacked a systematic approach towards disaster risk management.



The loss of life and property and the challenges that were faced in the aftermath of October 2005 earthquake affecting Azad Jammu and Kashmir and the NWFP province exhibited the need for establishing appropriate policy and institutional arrangements to reduce losses from disasters in future.

The need for strong institutional and policy arrangements has been fulfilled with the promulgation of National Disaster Management Ordinance, in December 2006. Under the Ordinance the National Disaster Management Commission (NDMC) has been established under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister as the highest policy making body in the field of disaster management. As an executive arm of the NDMC, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has been made operational to coordinate and monitor implementation of National Policies and Strategies on disaster management.

### Priority Areas of the Framework

- Institutional and legal arrangements for DRM
- Hazard and vulnerability assessment
- Training, education and awareness
- Disaster risk management planning
- Community and local level programming
- Multi-hazard early warning system
- Mainstreaming DRR into development
- Emergency response system, and
- Capacity development for post disaster recovery

The new system envisages a devolved and de-centralized mechanism for disaster management. Accordingly, Provincial Disaster Management Commissions (PDMCs) and Authorities (PDMA) have been established while similar arrangements have been made in AJ&K and Gilgit Baltistan. The District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs) have been notified across the country. The DDMAs are going to be the linchpin of the whole system and would play the role of the first line of defense in the event of a disaster.

The National Disaster Risk Management Framework has been formulated to guide the work of the entire system in the area of disaster risk management. It has been developed through wide consultation with stakeholders from local, provincial and national levels. The Framework identifies National Strategies and Policies for disaster management. Nine priority areas have been identified within this framework to establish and strengthen policies, institutions and capacities over the next five years.

The NDMA has already embarked upon a five-year development program to implement nine priority areas. For the purpose, the NDMA in collaboration with international donor agencies, has already secured commitments for the provision of funds.

### NDMA holds 5TH National Working Group Meeting on Disaster Mainstreaming

The ministries and donor agencies working in disaster prone areas should incorporate elements of disaster risk assessment and risk reduction in the planning, designing and implementation stages of their future development projects. It is important that sustainable economic and social development is achieved by minimizing shocks from disasters.



*Lt. Gen. (R) Farooq Ahmad Khan, Chairman, NDMA presiding over the 5th National Working Group meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction at NDMA, PM's Secretariat, Islamabad*

This was emphasized at the 5th Meeting of the National Working Group on Disaster Mainstreaming which was held with Lt. Gen. (R) Farooq Ahmad Khan in the chair on December 30, 2009 at NDMA, Islamabad. Presentations were made by the Ministries of Planning & Development, Housing & Works, Water & Power, Industries & Production and Ministry of Defence. The following key decisions regarding mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction were taken at the meeting:-

The Additional Secretary, Ministry of Planning and Development promised that the revised PC1 and PC2 format may be ensured before the end of the current financial year.

A separate chapter on "Disaster Risk Management" will be included in the 10th Five Year Plan.

After the approval of PC-1, DRR Knowledge Centre would be established in the PP&H Section of the Planning Commission.

Printing of Building Codes of Pakistan by NESPAK will be done by 15th January 2010.

### Role of Media in Effective Disaster Reporting

The National Disaster Management Authority arranged a three-day training workshop for media persons in Islamabad from December 16-18, 2009. The objective of the workshop was to sensitize the media persons about the current disaster management regime in the country. Media persons, hailing from 30 disaster prone districts participated in the training workshop. During the three-day training workshop, various group work and discussions about the role of media in disaster management were held.

The participants found the workshop a useful learning experience and an awareness exercise in terms of understanding the system and dynamics of disaster management.

Discussions and group work regarding reporting in disasters were especially very informative and professionally valuable for the reporters.



*Mr. Shaukat N Tahir, Senior Member, NDMA addressing the participants of a Media Workshop held at Islamabad*

At the end of the workshop, Mr. Shaukat Nawaz Tahir, Senior Member, NDMA awarded certificates to the participants. He said that the role of media in disaster management was very crucial and the NDMA considers media as an integral part of the response mechanism in disaster management.

### NDMA focusing on District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAS)

In order to discuss the operationalization of the District Disaster Management Authorities in high risk districts of the country, a meeting was held at the NDMA, Prime Minister's Secretariat, Islamabad, on December 18, 2009.

DCOs of the nine high risk districts and District Disaster Risk Management Coordinators participated in the meeting. These districts were identified by the NDMA on the basis of vulnerabilities and hazards they face which may result in disasters. These districts include Haripur, Charsadda, Jhang, Rajanpur, Sialkot, Thatta, Badin, Gwadar and Gilgit. In the meeting, the DCOs gave presentations focusing on the steps taken during 2009 for operationalization of DDMA in their respective districts.

The meeting also focused on the challenges faced by district authorities and their future plans regarding the disaster management system in their respective districts. The main challenges highlighted in the meeting were budget, capacity building and equipment needed in any emergency situation. Mr. Shaukat Nawaz Tahir, Senior Member, NDMA, who chaired the meeting, assured the participants that the NDMA would extend its support through the respective PDMA in overcoming these challenges.

The Chair urged upon the district government officials to focus on planning, preparedness and mitigation in their respective districts to establish an effective disaster management system at the local level.

### Experts urge mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in industrial sector

In order to achieve the goal of rapid growth in the industrial sector, integration of the Disaster Risk Reduction system is mandatory to be adopted by all the public and private sector industrial units in the country.

This declaration was the outcome of a two-day training course organized by the Ministry of Industries & Production in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) held on January 28-29, 2010 in Islamabad. The training was attended by representatives of various chambers of commerce & industries, industrial units and officials of various ministries across the country.

During the course, the participants were trained on various concepts and terminology related to Disaster Risks Reduction, DRM systems in Pakistan, techniques of undertaking disaster risks assessment and capacity and vulnerability assessment. The training also focused on identification of industrial hazards and disaster risks in various industrial sectors of Pakistan, especially textile, steel, surgical, cutlery, sports goods, chemical, leather etc.



*Participants at a training course on "Mainstreaming of the DRR into Industrial Sector" held at Islamabad*

Mr. Shaukat N. Tahir, Senior Member, NDMA was Chief Guest for the concluding session. He awarded certificates to the participants and said that participation by high profile representatives of the industries would result in formulation of an effective plan for mainstreaming DRR into the development and management process. He stressed upon the participants to coordinate with the NDMA for technical assistance/planning in DRR for developing an effective mechanism to mitigate the risks of disasters in the industrial sector.

### Meeting held on "Information Exchange in the Wake of Natural Calamities"

Chairman NDMA, Lt. Gen. (R) Farooq Ahmad Khan chaired a meeting on January 15, 2010 at NDMA Islamabad which, besides officers of the NDMA, was also attended by Brig: Muhammad Azam Agha, Director Military Training, GHQ, Pak Army and Col Phillips Clemmons, Office of the US Defence Representative in Pakistan.

The meeting discussed the initial outline of holding a seminar on the topic of "Exchange of Information in the Wake of Natural Calamities".

The representative of the US Embassy also showed interest in enhancing the capacity of relevant departments/agencies in Pakistan, by providing training to the officials on disaster management, covering both theoretical and physical aspects, especially in search and rescue in mountainous and difficult terrains.



*Chairman NDMA, Lt. Gen. (R) Farooq Ahmad Khan, Brig. M. Azam Agha, Director Military Training, GHQ, and Col Phillips Clemmons, Office of the US Defence Representative discussing "information exchange in the wake of natural calamities in Pakistan and other countries"*

### NDMA represents Pakistan in ACDR 2010 at Kobe

The Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR) 2010 was held in Kobe - Japan, from 17th -19th January 2010. The Senior Member, National Disaster Management Authority participated in the meeting on behalf of Government of Pakistan. The conference was organized jointly by the Government of Japan, the United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC).



*Participants from 28 countries at the ACDR 2010, Kobe, Japan*

International participants from 28 countries attended the conference. The key topics addressed at ACDR 2010 included suggestions for follow up actions, especially in relation to the

Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015. The participants expressed sorrow over the loss of human lives in the Haiti earthquake on 12th January 2010. This most recent catastrophic disaster attracted great attention of the participants at the ACDR 2010.

While speaking to the participants of the conference, Mr. Shaukat Nawaz Tahir, Senior Member, NDMA, informed the participants about the capacity building initiatives in search and rescue undertaken in Pakistan. Two USAR teams have been raised in the major cities of Islamabad and Karachi. He asked the ADRC to sponsor two USAR team leaders at the "International Urban Search and Rescue Course" offered by the Civil Defense Academy of Singapore. Assistance of the ADRC was also sought for coordination with the Singapore Government to reserve two slots in the ensuing courses planned for 2010.

### National Disaster Response Plan in final phase

Being the national focal agency, the National Disaster Management Authority has been striving for an effective disaster response mechanism in the country at all levels of the government. To this end, a National Disaster Response Plan (NDRP) was developed and the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for disaster response were developed through wide consultation with key stakeholders including government, non-government, UN and donor organizations.

For the finalization of the NDRP, four consultation workshops were held at the provincial and regional level in Karachi, Lahore, Muzaffarabad and Quetta. The last one was held in Islamabad on December 31, 2009. The participants of the workshop included representatives of concerned federal ministries, departments, divisions, UN agencies, national, international organizations and representatives from NWFP and Gilgit-Baltistan.

Addressing the participants of the final consultation workshop Mr. Shaukat Nawaz Tahir, Senior Member, NDMA said that the National Disaster Response Plan, after finalization, will be disseminated to the key stakeholders. Being a dynamic and living document, review of the plan will continue and changes and modifications will be made accordingly.

### NDMA organizes training on EPR for Sindh Universities

The National Disaster Management Authority, in collaboration with the Governor's Office, Sindh, and the University of Karachi, organized a 4-day training course on Emergency Preparedness and Response at University of Karachi from 19-22 January 2010.

The course was attended by 28 participants (faculty and security officers) from University of Karachi, Mehran University, Jamshoro, Liaquat University, NED, Hamdard University, Baqai University, Ziauddin University, Iqra University, Isra University, Jinnah University for Women, Textile Institute of Pakistan, Sindh University, Jamshoro, Preston University, and IoBM.

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Karachi also visited the training course and spent time with the participants. In the second phase, other universities from Sindh will take part in a similar course.

The aim of the course was to orient the participants about the basic

concepts of disaster risk management and to impart basic skills and knowledge on ways to deal with disaster preparedness and response.

A joint simulation/drill was conducted by the participants and the City District Government Karachi's Urban Search and Rescue Team, which has been trained by the NDMA.



*Participants of the training course displaying their newly learnt skills in search and rescue during the drill/simulation*

### One UN Joint DRM Programme 2010 finalised

The One UN DRM Joint Programme Component is based upon the work of the United Nation's Thematic Working Group (TWG) in DRM which was initiated in March 2007. Prepared through collective deliberations within the UN system and consultations with external stakeholders, this draft assistance framework also contributes to the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015, which was adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe, Japan, 2005.

The UN system's involvement in post disaster response and recovery operations after the Kashmir earthquake of October 2005 has led to significant enhancement of the system's own capacities on disaster issues in Pakistan. The One-UN DRM programme builds upon this experience to support the government's efforts in enhancing capacities for emergency response and post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation. The One-UN Joint DRM Programme has the following four key outcomes:

**Outcome 1:** Strengthened policies, norms (gender/rights-based), institutional and coordination mechanisms for DRM with particular emphasis upon preparedness and response.

**Outcome 2:** Reliable integrated multi-sectoral knowledge, information and communication system developed for disaster risk management that reaches out to the grassroots level.

**Outcome 3:** Capacities of key educational and training institutions and professional bodies enhanced for development of human resources for Disaster Risk Reduction and Response

**Outcome 4:** Communities, vulnerable groups, grassroots organizations and local authorities in high-risk areas empowered with resources and capacities to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters.

The NDMA actively works with the One UN DRM team to plan and implement initiatives which are in line with the National Plan of Action 2010.

### Policy Dialogue with Parliamentarians

The primary objective of DRM is to minimize the risk of disasters and to effectively manage them, on occurrence. An efficient DRM entails the well-orchestrated processes of using administrative decisions, organization, operational skills and capacities to implement national DRM policies and strategies, to lessen the impacts of all sorts of disasters.

The process of establishing the new DRM system is a slow, especially at provincial and district levels. It can be expedited through ownership by political leadership. In this regard, public representatives can play a vital role in putting the systems in place and consistently monitoring the implementation of DRM policies and plans at all the three tiers i.e. national, provincial and district.

A series of policy dialogues on "Effectiveness of Disaster Risk Management: Engaging Parliamentarians" at national, provincial and regional level were arranged by NDMA for sensitizing parliamentarians on DRM needs. The main objectives of these policy dialogues were to:

- Discuss the challenges in DRM in Pakistan to emphasize the need of strengthening the institutional capacity and improving budgetary allocations for DRM;

- Generate an informed debate on various issues hindering the proper functioning of Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs) in order to ensure that PDMAs are fully operational and are contributing to effective DRM in Pakistan;

- Provide a forum for interaction amongst the parliamentarians and technical experts to map and discuss challenges and opportunities in DRM; and

- Provide an agenda for parliamentarians and offer an opportunity to develop consensus among various actors and relevant stakeholders on different policy options to improve DRM in Pakistan.

The first policy dialogue of the series was organized in Islamabad on 13th October, 2009. Parliamentarians from major political parties including senators and members of National Assembly, participated in the dialogue along with representatives from media, civil society and other key stakeholders.

The second policy dialogue was organized in Karachi on 7th December, 2009. The dialogue was chaired by Syeda Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker, Provincial Assembly, Sindh. Senior Member NDMA Mr. Shaukat Nawaz Tahir and Policy Expert Dr. Salman Humayun delivered presentations. The participants of the dialogue included members of Provincial Assembly Sindh, media, civil society and other key stakeholders. MPAs from MQM, PPP-P and National Peoples Party also participated in this Policy dialogue.

The third policy dialogue of the series was held in Lahore on 7th January, 2010. The dialogue was chaired by Rana Sana Ullah Khan, Provincial Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs. It was attended by 30 members of Provincial Assembly of the Punjab (including 2 advisors to CM Punjab) belonging to various political parties across the political arena like PML (N), PPP-P, PML and others. The Chairman NDMA, Lt. Gen. Farooq Ahmad Khan (R) presented the situation of DRM regime in Pakistan and highlighted



*Chairman NDMA Lt. Gen. (R) Farooq Ahmad Khan addressing the participants of a policy dialogue held at Lahore on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2009*

the need for an improved and reformed approach towards this important issue directly affecting the wellbeing of the citizens.

Overall, these were successful events and generated a comprehensive discussion on the topic. At the end of these dialogues, recommendations were presented to bring the DRM high on the government agenda and to sensitize civil society, media, and public about DRM in Pakistan. The parliamentarians, who participated in large number in these policy dialogues, showed keen interest and suggested to continue the policy dialogues as a process and not merely as events. They also expressed their resolve to promote the cause of DRM at the respective floors, so as to operationalize PDMAs and DDMA's in the shortest possible time.

### Upcoming Events

#### Pakistan

Flood Mitigation course from 15<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 at National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Islamabad.

DRM Planning Workshop from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 in Quetta by NDMA.

One day Seminar on DRR sensitive Housing Planning Standards on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010 at NIDM, Islamabad.

#### International

The 8th Meeting of the Regional Consultative Committee for Disaster Management (RCC 8) has been rescheduled to 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 at Crown Plaza Galleria, Manila, Philippines.

ADPC Training Course: EVRC-9 'Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction for Cities' from 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> March, 2010, Bangkok, Thailand.

ADPC Training Course: 7<sup>th</sup> International Course on 'Hospital Emergency Preparedness and Response' from March 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Bangkok, Thailand.

## World at Glance

### Massive earthquake hits Haiti: Death toll rises to 200,000

The 7.0 magnitude earthquake in Haiti on 12th January, 2010 at 16.53 local time reportedly killed more than 200,000 people. It has destroyed/severely damaged the infrastructure and affected more than three million people. The earthquake caused major damages in Port-au-Prince, Jacmel and other settlements in the region.

Many countries have responded to appeals for humanitarian aid, pledging funds and dispatching rescue and medical teams, engineers and support personnel. Communication systems, air, land, and sea transport facilities, hospitals and electrical networks have been damaged by the earthquake, which hampered rescue and aid efforts.



Efforts to distribute aid have been hampered by numerous problems - including blocked roads, bureaucratic confusion and the collapse of local authority. Despite the problems, progress is being made. No major outbreaks of disease have been reported so far,

but cases of pink-eye, skin rashes and diarrhea have been reported. Food, water, shelter and health care remain the most pressing needs.

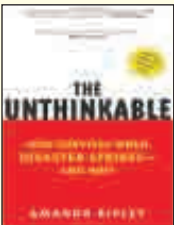
Leading non-governmental organizations (NGOs) continued food distributions in Port-au-Prince under the new fixed distribution system on 4th February. Since the earthquake, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and partners have distributed food to more than one million people. An additional 29,000 people have received daily food distributions at hospitals, orphanages and community kitchens. Aid agencies say that food and water deliveries are reaching more people, but are still short of meeting the needs of the survivors.

### Numbers at a Glance

▶ Estimated Deaths	Approximately 200,000
▶ People Displaced in Port-au-Prince Metropolitan Area	700,000
▶ People Departing Port-au-Prince	482,349
▶ Estimated Affected Population	3 million
▶ Injured Treated	300,000
▶ Houses Destroyed	250,000
▶ Disrupted Businesses	30,000

Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, and is ranked 149th of 182 countries on the Human Development Index. The island of Hispaniola, shared by Haiti and the Dominican Republic, is seismically active and has a history of destructive earthquakes such as the ones that occurred in 1751, 1770 and 1842.

## Useful Books & Publications



Amanda Ripley, an award-winning writer on homeland security for Time, offers a compelling look at instinct and disaster response as she explores the psychology of fear and how it can save or destroy us.

Surprisingly, she reports, mass panic is rare, and an understanding of the dynamics of crowds can help prevent a stampede, while a well-trained crew can get passengers quickly but calmly off a crashed plane. Using interviews with survivors of hotel fires, hostage situations, plane crashes and 9/11, Ripley takes readers through the three stages of reaction to calamity: disbelief, deliberation and action. The average person slows down, spending valuable minutes to gather belongings and check in with others. The human tendency to stay in groups can make evacuation take much longer than experts estimate.



Rapid industrialization in Pakistan on one hand has contributed to the development of Pakistan. On the other, the risk of industrial hazards and its consequences on lives and property has given way to the realization of developing a contingency plan to deal with this hazard.

The National Industrial Disaster Management Contingency Plan developed by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) after wider consultations with key stakeholders delineates an entire national preparedness and response system, including both public and private resources, for responses to emergency which could result in chemical and industrial disasters. It identifies high risk areas along with priority for protection in most threatened areas, monitoring, training and conducting exercises to assess and improve preparedness.



Natural Disasters, 7th edition, focuses on how the normal processes of the Earth concentrate their energies and deal heavy blows to humans and their structures.

It is concerned with how the natural world operates and, in so doing, kills and maims humans and destroys their works. The following themes are maintained throughout the book:

- Energy sources underlying disasters
- Plate tectonics and climate change
- Earth processes operating in rock, water, and atmosphere
- Significance of geologic time
- Complexities of multiple variables operating simultaneously
- Detailed and readable case studies

We welcome comments/response from readers of our newsletter

Address for communication

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