

Summary Outcomes of the RTM Pre-consultation on the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment and the Disaster Recovery Framework

21 November 2018, National Convention Centre

The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare serves as the Government focal point for the 2018 Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). In terms of next steps, the National Disaster Prevention and Control Committee will convene on 26 November to endorse the results of the PDNA. After the discussions at the Round Table Implementation Meeting on 4-5 December, the PDNA will be submitted to the Government Cabinet for initial approval and further on to the Standing Committee of the National Assembly for their endorsement. The PDNA report is expected to be available in the course of December 2018, with the expected implementation of the Disaster Recovery Framework in 2019. A revised presentation on PDNA findings and next steps is annexed to these notes.

The Ministry of Planning and Investment is assigned as lead for the disaster recovery, with the National Committee for Recovery, chaired by Vice Minister of Planning and Investment Dr. Kikeo taking the overall lead. It will be supported by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, which inter alia is mandated the responsibility for disaster risk management. The Ministry of Planning and Investment is collaborating closely with the Ministry of Finance to manage the Government's expenditure related to the recovery process. New projects are currently not being launched, for funding to focus on recovery.

The Law on Disaster Prevention and Control, once finalized, will provide the legal basis for the recovery. A technical committee will revise the law, taking into consideration the pre-consultation.

Next Steps and Recommendations

Development of a National Disaster Recovery Framework

- Taking into consideration basic needs of the affected population, the recovery framework should provide continuity from humanitarian assistance. Principles include building back better; minimal relocation of people; community participation and use of local knowledge and skills; building on existing institutions; and capacity development.
- The Disaster Recovery Framework will be aligned with national planning. MPI will consult with stakeholders to further elaborate the framework and to ensure it feeds into the next annual NSEDPs. Medium- and long-term needs will be integrated into the 9th NSEDP.
- Clear mandates are required for all stakeholders, including Government, development partners, private sector and civil society. Clarity is also encouraged on timelines, including on the PDNA endorsement process, and on the implications of the endorsement.
- The Disaster Recovery Framework is expected to be launched in January 2019. It will need to be periodically reviewed.
- It was also recommended to develop an ex-ante recovery framework, to ensure preparedness in advance. This should include special procedures, for instance on procurement.

Development of actionable sector plans

- Sector plans are being and will be prepared under the leadership of the respective line ministries and with the support of relevant development partners. Based on the needs identified in the

PDNA, the sector plans will be used to guide, plan and estimate resource requirements for recovery and full integration of reconstruction activities into the overall development plan of the government as outlined in the 8th NSEDP and into the development of the 9th NSEDP.

- The sector plans should be harmonized, mutually reinforcing and brought together under the recovery framework. Inter-sectoral coordination is critical to avoid duplication and to take advantage of synergies.
- Cross-sector prioritization criteria include: humanitarian impact, livelihoods and poverty reduction, multiplier effects and value chains (especially agriculture), needs of vulnerable social groups, disaster risk management and environmental considerations.
- Strong and transparent M&E and reporting systems should be established.
- The Round Table mechanism and its Sector and Subsector Working Groups will be a key venue for consulting on the recovery and for monitoring the implementation of the recovery framework.

Financing for Recovery (US\$ 514 million needs is approximately 3% of GDP, 14% of national budget and 60% of budget deficit)

- National Budget: Allocation of larger parts of the national budget as contingency funds, e.g. in the Philippines up to 1.8% and in Indonesia up to 1% of national budget are earmarked in this manner.
- Development Cooperation: Sectors were recommended to discuss with development partners whether funding of development programmes and emergency response could be re-channeled into the recovery.
- Private Sector: National-level disaster insurance could be introduced and strengthened, including micro-insurances for disasters and agricultural insurance; telecommunications companies could provide early warning text messages; private sector could support the construction of schools.
- Livelihoods/Income Generation: Tax exemption will be introduced for businesses affected by the disaster.
- National Disaster Fund: Establishment / capitalization of a national disaster fund such as the State Reserve Fund.

Systematic integration of disaster risk management into development partners' programmes: Disaster risk management should be systematically mainstreamed, similar to gender equality.

Smarter investments to enhance prevention and resilience

- Areas include climate-resilient agriculture; transportation infrastructure and its maintenance; watershed management; land-use planning; detection and early warning systems and tourism.
- Building back better - stronger, faster and more inclusively – will be key to enhance resilience.
 - Stronger: Disaster Risk Management should be integrated into day-to-day operations. e.g. stronger houses in lower risk areas. Provinces could be required to develop disaster plans. When disaster strikes they would have to submit to central Government the plans and proof of their implementation to be fully eligible for emergency funding.
 - Faster: e.g. through pre-approved contracts / special procedures for procurement; planning with time-bound indicators.

- More inclusively: Poorest and most vulnerable people should be able to access the support required to reconstruct, to avoid consequences on education, health and other factors and people falling back into poverty. They should also be involved in the delivery of support, to ensure it is useful. Community facilitators could bring together the inputs from all sectors to communities.
- Cash transfers and labour-intensive public work programmes are recommended to help restore livelihoods.
- A review of hydropower safety mechanisms is recommended, taking into consideration disaster risks.

Enhanced civil society involvement in the recovery: Roles and responsibilities need to be more clearly spelled out.

Enhanced preparedness to disasters by taking into consideration new scenarios: For instance, the expected increase in temperatures in the coming years may lead to more forest fires.