POLICY DIALOGUE REPORT

Floods 2010: Governance Issues in Disaster Risk Management

Jointly Organized by
ActionAid Pakistan
&
Institute of Social and Policy Sciences (I-SAPS)

Islamabad Tuesday, June 21, 2011
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## Acronyms

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<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>AAPK</td>
<td>Action Aid Pakistan</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDA</td>
<td>Capital Development Authority</td>
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<td>DDMA</td>
<td>District Disaster Management Authority</td>
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<td>DRM</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Management</td>
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<td>FRC</td>
<td>Federal Relief Commissioner</td>
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<td>IDP</td>
<td>Internally Displaced People</td>
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<td>I-SAPS</td>
<td>Institute of Social and Policy Sciences</td>
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<td>HFA</td>
<td>Hyogo Framework for Action</td>
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<td>MNA</td>
<td>Member National Assembly</td>
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<td>MQM</td>
<td>Mutahidda Qaumi Movement</td>
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<td>NCBDRM</td>
<td>National Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Management</td>
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<td>NDMA</td>
<td>National Disaster Management Authority</td>
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<td>NDM Act</td>
<td>National Disaster Management Act 2010</td>
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<td>NDMC</td>
<td>National Disaster Management Commission</td>
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<td>NDMO</td>
<td>National Disaster Management Ordinance</td>
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<td>NDRMF</td>
<td>National Disaster Risk Management Framework</td>
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<td>PDMA</td>
<td>Provincial Disaster Management Authority</td>
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<td>PPPP</td>
<td>Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians</td>
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<td>UNISDR</td>
<td>United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
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<td>WB</td>
<td>World Bank</td>
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BACKGROUND

Pakistan is amongst the high-risk disaster prone countries of the world, as different disasters like floods, earthquakes, cyclones, droughts, landslides, etc., have been frequently occurring phenomena, causing huge loss of life and property. Almost all sectors of the economy including housing, transport, agriculture, education and livestock are adversely affected by these natural disasters. In recent years, the deadliest earthquake of October 2005 was followed by Floods 2010. 2010 Floods in Pakistan are considered the worst in the last 80 years history, a disaster of unprecedented magnitude inundating approximately one-fifth of Pakistan's total land area (796,095 square kilometers). More than fifteen (15) million people were directly affected, reported death toll was over 2000; more than seven (7) hundred thousand houses were turned into rubble, and erosion of development gains was immense.

A calamity of such devastating proportions would have left any government deficient in responding to it. However the inadequate and poorly coordinated response by disaster management institutions in Pakistan not only multiplied the misfortune but also highlighted the shortcomings of the present disaster risk management framework. It is noteworthy that floods are the most frequently occurring disaster in the history of Pakistan; till date Pakistan has faced as many as 69 floods. Punjab and Sindh are particularly vulnerable to floods; similarly KPK is prone to flash floods. In last 28 years, fifty (50) floods have hit the country; major floods of recent past were experienced in 1992, 1994, 1996, 2001, 2005, 2007 and 2008. Despite having such an experience in managing floods, the disaster response mechanisms in Pakistan failed to respond appropriately to catastrophic floods of 2010. It would be fair to assume that with better policies and integration of national disaster framework into overall development planning, a more befitting response system would have been in place and many of these losses could have been avoided or mitigated.

Despite the country’s vulnerability to devastating disasters, the policy response and debate on the issues of weak legal and institutional framework for disaster management as well as inappropriate and insufficient budgetary allocations and spending are still largely missing or inadequate. Till 2005, Pakistan had been following the conventional relief and response oriented model for coping and managing the impacts of natural disasters. However, the World has already shifted to a new model of Disaster Risk Management involving preparedness for addressing disasters instead of merely reacting to disasters in the form of relief and response.

The promulgation of National Disaster Management Ordinance 2006\(^2\) (NDMO) in the backdrop of Earthquake 2005 marked a shift in approach to address disasters from mere relief and response to preparedness and mitigation by putting in place DRM regime in the country. On the lapse of the NDMO, 2006 in 2010, the parliament enacted the National Disaster Management Act, 2010. The introduction of NDM Act, 2010 can be termed as a significant shift from reactive model towards a more proactive pattern of governance based on Disaster Risk Reduction.

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1. The disasters are results of inadequately managed hazards and vulnerabilities- Losses that could have been avoided or reduced by introducing appropriate disaster management measures. B. Wisner, P. Blaikie, T. Cannon, and I. Davis (2004). *At Risk: Natural hazards, people's vulnerability and disasters*, Wiltshire: Routledge
2. Ordinance No XL of 2006, December 21, 2006. NDMO 2006 was issued under Article 144 of the 1973 Constitution Article 144 empowers the Parliament to legislate on a provincial subject after being empowered by provincial legislatures by passing resolutions.
In order to deal with disasters efficiently and to provide for an effective Disaster Risk Management (DRM) regime, well coordinated policies at governmental level and efficient, responsive and capacitated institutional mechanism corresponding with the paradigm shift in approach towards DRM is an imperative. In this regard, The NDMO/NDMA provided the much needed National Platform for managing disasters but the existing arrangement is marred with a number of shortcomings ranging from definitional deficits, failure to cross-refer to relevant laws and institutions, inability to align disaster related institutions vertically and horizontally, to failure in operationalising the regional and local tier disaster management institutions. With blurred channels of communication at vertical as well as horizontal levels, duplication of functions envisaged to be performed by various bodies, and legal impediments all contribute to muddle up the whole disaster management structure.

Monitoring and evaluation of the relief, response and reconstruction activity in the aftermath of floods 2010 highlight a number of issues indicative of serious governance challenges in the existing national DRM. In addition to the legal and institutional deficiencies, DRM has unfortunately failed to draw the desired level of attention from the policy makers and also figures low in the academic as well as development sectors. The deficit of understanding is reflected in the indecisiveness and the actions of the multiple stakeholders operating at the district, provincial and federal levels. This is apparent in the program planning, financial and human resource allocation, all of which are vital aspects not only for the flood recovery, but also for the overall development activities at all levels of governance. For example, the proposals for formation of an “Independent Commission” and newly constituted ‘NODMC’, and lately establishment of a special ‘Flood Re-construction Unit’ at the National Planning Commission to prepare the flood re-construction plan, while a number of parallel planning processes were going on at the NDMA. At the same time, the 5 year National Development Plan is being finalised independent of the flood re-construction plans. Moreover a number of concerns have also been raised in the context of the Eighteenth Constitutional Amendment on the nature and future status of existing DRM institutional arrangements.

**Aims and Objectives**

The policy dialogue was held with a view to creating a vibrant and sustained interface with policymakers and other key stakeholders on DRM. The main objectives of the policy dialogue were to:

a. Discuss the challenges in DRM in Pakistan to emphasize the need of strengthening the institutional capacity, informing policy choices and improving budgetary allocations for DRM;

b. Map and examine the existing framework for DRM in Pakistan and identify various issues hindering the proper functioning of these institutional structures like NDMA, Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs) and District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs);

c. Provide a forum for interaction amongst the parliamentarians, technical experts, donor Community and INGOs to map and discuss challenges and opportunities in DRM; and

d. Identify gaps and overlaps in institutional roles and responsibilities, in the terms of reference at the Federal, Provincial and District levels.

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\textsuperscript{3} Constitution (Eighteenth Amendment) Act 2010, Act No X of 2010
e. Provide an agenda for policy community and compile a set of recommendations to address challenges and try to chart a course of action for reconstruction in the backdrop of Floods 2010 in Pakistan.

Speakers

The speakers included Mr. Ahmad Ali, Research Fellow, I-SAPS; Mr. Azhar Lashari, ActionAid Pakistan, Ms. Rabia Shabbir, Research Fellow, I-SAPS and Representatives of PDMAs of all the four provinces of Pakistan. The dialogue was chaired by Mr. Ahmad Kamal, Member DRR, National Disaster Management Authority.

Participants

The participants of the dialogue included parliamentarians, policy community, INGOs, media, civil society and other key stakeholders. List of participants is attached as Annex. II. The proceedings of the dialogue were covered by press and electronic media. Print media coverage of the event is annexed as Annex. III

Information Material Shared With Participants

I-SAPS and AAPK also shared with the participants three (03) policy briefs, copy of NDM Act 2010 (bare act), and a note detailing the impacts of floods 2010. The material shared included the following:

1. Note on Floods 2010
2. National Disaster Management Act 2010 (Bare Act)
3. Policy Briefs:
   a. Floods 2010: Issues in Institutional Framework For DRM in Pakistan
   b. Floods 2010: DRM Legal Framework - Issues and Challenges
   c. Floods 2010: Public Financing on DRM in Pakistan
PROCEEDINGS OF THE POLICY DIALOGUE

Welcome Note

Mr. Jemal Ahmed
Country Director, ActionAid, Pakistan

Mr. Jemal Ahmed welcomed the participants and introduced them to the aims and objectives of the policy dialogue. He said that Pakistan is one of the high risk disaster prone countries of the world. It frequently faces a plethora of natural and human induced disasters. He said that the devastation wreaked by Floods 2010 necessitates an interaction among the stakeholders like policymakers in Pakistan, International donor community and various governmental agencies to put up a well coordinated and appropriate response to these disasters to mitigate the risks and to effect a quick and effective rehabilitation of the affectees of these disasters.

He expressed the hope that the dialogue would prove a fruitful exercise and help in initiating informed policy discourse on DRM in Pakistan in order to improve the DRM institutional mechanisms.

Floods 2010: Total Damage – Province-wise

![Source: World Bank (WB), Damage Need Assessment (DNA) of Pakistan Floods 2010]

Presentations by Speakers

Floods 2010: A Review of Institutional Response
Azhar Lashari, Programme Officer, ActionAid, Pakistan

Azahr lashari gave an overview of the devastation and losses wreaked on Pakistan by the colossal floods in 2010 in Pakistan. While setting the context for his presentation, he told that audience that the Floods 2010 played havoc with the social and physical infrastructure of Pakistan. Over 20 million and an area of more than 100,000 sq. km, spread over 78 districts in Pakistan were inundated. It also destroyed 2.2 million hectares of standing crops destroyed and killed 450,000 heads of livestock. The floods also damaged 1.67 million homes and resulted in an financial loss of PKR 855 billion, which is 5.8% of GDP 2009-10 (US$ 10.027 billion). He further added that the Sindh province was affected most followed Punjab and other provinces in terms of losses and
inundation of areas. Early relief and early recovery required 928$Millions and 956$ Million respectively, whereas the reconstruction effort required a whopping 6,799$ Million to 8,915$ Million.

Having apprised the audience of the volume of losses caused by the floods 2010, Azahr Lshari went on to say that the size of the catastrophe required an efficient and well coordinated system and response to mitigate the losses of life and property, however, the institutional response offered was quite dismal and disappointing both in terms of strategy and response. It has given rise to many concerns and question vis-à-vis the institutional performance, coordination, capacity and transparency of the implementation strategy and plan. He said that the level of preparedness was inadequate. Moreover, the legal and administrative framework proved restrictive and inefficient. It has highlighted the concerns about the overlapping and duplication of relief and response efforts and legal and administrative institutions. Moreover, the public financing for the DRM indicates to disconnect between data, research and financial allocations for the preparedness and relief efforts.

He summated his presentation by stating that the institutional response was characteristic of overlapping and parallel intuitions engaged in flood response, administrative difficulties, faulty and inadequate early warning & information management, PDMAs capacity deficit etc.

He discussed the case study of Watan Cards to prove that the institutional response was not well coordinated and the relief effort through WCs highlighted many lacunas at policy, process and implementation levels.

**National Disaster Management Commission (NDMC)**

**Provincial Regional Disaster Management Commission (PRDMC)**

**Provincial Regional Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs)**

**District/Municipal Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs)**

**Federal Ministries, Departments and Technical Agencies**

**Media, NGOs, Insurance & Private sector**

**Disaster, UN, NGOs, Media**

**Tehsil Structures**

_Floods 2010: Legal Issues in Disaster Risk Management in Pakistan_
_Ahmad Ali, Research Fellow, I-SAPS_

Mr. Ahmad Ali gave an overview of the legal and constitutional developments relating to Disaster Risk Management in the past and during the recent years. While elaborating about the Pre 2005 DRM constitutional framework, he referred to the National Calamities Act 1958, Civil Defence Act 1952, Local Government Ordinance 2001 and PESA 2005. While discussing the constitutional development regarding DRM in Pakistan post 2005 earthquake, he said that the lessons learnt and losses wreaked by the deadly earthquake of 2005 and corresponding to its international commitments with the DRM covenants like Hyogo Framework and International Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (ISDRM), Pakistan saw the promulgation of NDMO,
2006 to have a comprehensive and effective piece of legislation to deal with natural disasters in Pakistan. The lapse of NDMO in 2010 was followed by the passage of NDM Act, 2010.

He went on to discuss some of the complexities and anomalies existing in the NDM Act, 2010. He said that although the DRM was a provincial subject but the Federation has legislated on the subject being duly empowered by the provinces through resolutions in respective provincial assemblies under Article 144 of the Constitution of Pakistan. He also elaborated upon the much discussed impacts of 18th Amendment on NDM Act 2010, making it clear that as legislation under Article 144 there was no impact of the recently introduced constitutional amendment. However, he added that there was also a ‘disassociation clause’ in Article 144, and any province can opt out of the present legal framework and come up with its own legislation. Nonetheless he highlighted that the international best practices in DRM as well as the international covenants on DRR necessitate the role of a national platform to manage disasters.

While elaborating on the subject of legislative and institutional overlapping of DRM in Pakistan, he said that overlapping laws and jurisdictions are evident from the laws like NDM Act 2010, West Pakistan National Calamities (Prevention and Relief) Act 1958, The Civil Defence Act 1952(As Amended In 1993), Punjab Emergency Service Act 2006 etc. Moreover, DRM related laws do not cross refer or attempt to relate or incorporate the provisions of existing laws. Moreover, the preamble of the law envisages the protection of the citizen and not for creation of systems or institutions. Moreover, it also fails to include National Response to DRM. The definition of the disaster is quite restrictive and fails to include the manmade disaster like human negligence or terrorism into its purview. He cited the incidents of human negligence which caused or increase the risks of disaster but the NDM Act, 2010 failed to address the issue of negligence while defining disasters.

The responsibility for ‘Declaration of Disaster’ is of critical importance in responding to disasters however the current legal framework is inadequate on this count as well. NDM Act 2010 fails to identify as to who has the authority to declare an event a disaster, thus mobilizing the DRM apparatus for responding to it. He supported his argument quoting examples from the disaster management laws of Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Canada and UK. In addition, the unclear line of authority and jurisdictional view among the federal, provincial and district government is also a cause of concern for the common citizens and experts of DRM. Likewise the present legal framework is deficient in providing cogent provisions for DDMAs, and is partly responsible for the non-functioning the district level DRM structures.

### Constitutional Basis of National Disaster Management Act 2010

**Subject of Disaster Management:** Disaster Management is a subject under the exclusive jurisdiction of provinces as it is neither included in the Federal legislative list nor the defunct concurrent list as enumerated in the fourth schedule of the Constitution [Fourth Schedule, Article 70 (4)]. Besides, Article 142 (c) of the constitution clearly states that Parliament shall have no powers to make laws with respect to any matter not enumerated in either the Federal Legislative List or the Concurrent Legislative List.

**National Disaster Management Ordinance 2006/ National Disaster Management Act 2010:** For the said reason the enactment was done by invoking the powers given to the Federal Legislature under Article 144 (Part V Chapter 1), which confers the power upon Federal Legislature to legislate for two or more Provinces, if two or more provincial legislatures pass resolutions to the effect that the Parliament may by law regulate any matter not enumerated in either legislative list in the fourth schedule of the constitution. Therefore National Disaster Management Law was promulgated after the Parliament was empowered by four provincial assemblies through their resolutions.
In the light of these complexities and anomalies vitiating the exiting legislation, he recommended undertaking a comprehensive review of the existing legislation and doing away with these anomalies with the consultation of relevant stakeholder.

Financing Of Disaster Risk Management in Pakistan
Rabia Shabbir, Research Fellow, I-SAPS

Rabia Shabbir, elaborating the policy milieu of public financing of DRM, she drew an analytical comparison between two main approaches towards DRM, i.e. (a) Response oriented approach which is a reaction to a disaster, and (b) a comprehensive policy for DRM that encompasses preparedness, mitigation, response and relief. She said that the public financing of DRM in Pakistan even during the recent years has followed a response oriented approach and still we need to do a lot at governmental level to align public financing with a comprehensive DRM policy.

While sharing the analysis of the budgetary allocations for DRM during the years 2003-4 to 2009-10, she substantiated that the public financing for DRM as compared to response to disaster was quite negligible and there was a dire need to improve the budgetary allocations for DRM both at Federal and Provincial levels. She also shared some of the key findings of the budgetary allocations for DRM based on a detailed statistical analysis. Those findings are as under:

- DRM policy and budgetary allocations are standalone initiatives;
- Response-oriented patterns of public financing;
- Inadequate operational budget;
- Under-utilization of available budgets;
- No minimum benchmark for PDMAs;
- National and provincial Funds for DRM are still not operational.

She stressed the need to incorporate certain adjustments in our preferences for public financing of DRM. She said that there is a dire need to address disconnect between DRM policies and DRM financing. She appreciated the improvements visible in DRM policy by heading towards a more effective and institutionalized response to disasters. She said that government approved NDMO, in 2006, to shift from relief-oriented approach to more comprehensive DRM focusing on preparedness, mitigation, response, relief, and rehabilitation. However, pointing towards
financing on DRM after earthquake 2005, she lamented that there was no correlation between DRM policies and DRM financing. This was evident from the analysis of budgetary allocations for DRM in last three fiscal years which were not done according to revised DRM policy. Rabia Shabbir concluded that the budgetary allocations for DRM should be adequate, timely and realigned to meet the objectives of newly created institutional mechanism under NDM Act 2010. Besides it is important to allocate more resources for preparedness so that disaster risks can be effectively reduced.

Reflections by Representatives of PDMAs

**Mr. Attaullah Mengal, Deputy Director PDMA-Baluchistan**
Mr. Attaullah Mengal talked about the issues and challenges being faced by PDMA, Balochistan. He said that Balochistan has the history of flooding, tsunami, and earthquake. Therefore, the responsibilities and role of PDMA is much more important. He added that the PDMA made its best efforts to provide relief to the flood affectees in 2010. However, some financial and capacity constrained affected the access and quality of the work done by the PDMA so far.

He told that Provincial Disaster Management Plan has been prepared and shared with all the districts for implementation, NGO’s, civil society and all the stakeholders. He said that PDMA has worked extensively on establishing an effective early warning system and community based disaster risk management plans. He appreciated the efforts of Action-Aid and I-SAPS for conducting such a productive session on such a crucial subject crucial.

**Mr. Adnan Zafar, Director Relief & Operations, PDMA-KPK**
Mr. Adnan Zafar, Director PDMA, KPK, while introducing PDMA, he informed the participants that, during the last two year the institutional capacity of PDMA NWFP was despondently small, and when a sub-institution named as Emergency Response Unit (ERU) was established for IDPs crisis. During four months of crisis, more than two lac people were displaced and they were rehabilitated successfully in an honorable way, he added. He said that, apart from of natural disasters, PDMA is also confronting war against terrorism and IDP crisis, which is a challenge for PDMA, KPK. While talking about preparedness, he said, that under Relief Act, Provincial Relief Commissioner was responsible for providing relief in case of deaths and losses due to any disasters. Afterward, he highlighted the recent development on the issue of coordination between PDMA and DDMAs. He informed the participants that coordination gaps are there with DDMAs, which causes burden on PDMA and unexpectedly increases workload. He said that PDMA has given general framework and guidance, if the small disasters are catered by DDMAs as immediate responders. Apart from coordination issues, he discussed the issues related with the budget of DDMAs, funding mechanism, and resource allocations.

**Mr. Nisar Ahmad Director Operations PDMA-Punjab:**
The representative of PDMA-Punjab, while briefing about the latest activities said that there is an active plan ready for the disaster risk management both at provincial as well as district level. He explained that these emergency as well as risk aversion plans are devised after taking all the stakeholders (civil society, NGOs, DDMAs and civil administration) on board. Moreover, still there are extensive meetings and workshops going on with the NGOs, Civil Society, civil administration and the relief organizations to further improve the preparedness level and decrease the response time.

He also informed the participants that PDMA Punjab is the only PDMA so far which has established a special 24 hour disaster related emergency helpline in nine districts of Punjab. He
said that this network is connected with all the administration tiers from district to provincial level. He informed the audience that anybody can dial 1129 to register their complaints/call for help and until their problem is not solved the network will keep informing the authorities.

**Plenary Session**

**Mr. Jemal Ahmad**, Country Director Action-Aid Pakistan opened the plenary by lauding the elaborative and comprehensive treatment of the subject by the speakers. He was of the view that one can sketch a detailed picture of the governance issues marring DRM in Pakistan while taking help from the finding and analysis of the presenters. In the light of the presentations he highlighted following issues and challenges those need to be addressed for having a comprehensive DRM policy in the country;

- Lack of coordination between NDMA, PDMAs as well as DDMAs;
- The parallel laws and regulations are choking the capacity building of the concerned authorities and their response towards the disasters;
- Inadequate financial allocations for DRM;
- Problems at the Governance level take their roots at Policy level, process phase and at the implementation level.

Catchments of major rivers are being affected and that leads to issues with erosion, run-off and even groundwater recharge.

**Mr. Fadlullah Wilmot**, Country Director, Islamic Relief appreciated the joint effort by ActionAid Pakistan and I-SAPS to highlight the fundamental issues in the existing DRM framework in Pakistan. Furthermore he drew attention to the important issue of deforestation and its role in floods. He attributed the massive depletion of forest cover in Pakistan as a major factor amplifying the devastation caused by floods. Deforestation not only has harmful effects on the catchment areas but also contribute to the issues of erosion, run-off and even groundwater recharge. It is important to reduce the flood risk Mr. Fadlullah said that serious attention should be given on reversing this trend.

**Mr. Sarwar Bari**, Executive Director, Patan Development Organization discussed the issue of dress code for the relief workers both male and female. He challenged the regulation issued by NDMA that every female worker should wear shalwar qameez etc. He said that NDMA should focus on the preparedness rather than dress codes for the relief workers. He also directed the attention of towards the release of 600,000 cusec water from Tarbela with out any early warning. He said that it is the biggest evidence of lack of coordination and will to effectively tackle the disasters. Mr. Bari agreed that the DRM is constrained by financial allocations and there is need to align the public financing with DRM policy. Lastly, he congratulated I-SAPS and Action-Aid for conducting such a useful and productive exercise.

**Mr. Shakoor Sindhu**, Executive Director, RDPI commented that it appears that parliament did not have sufficient time to review and make the NDM Act 2010 a comprehensive piece of legislation. Due to which there are certain loopholes concerning the coordination among PDMAs and NDMA. He furthered his discussion and pointed out the weak role of DDMAs due to sheer lack of capacity at this end. He said that decisions
at the district level are influenced and even taken at provincial level. Thus, adding to the curse of red-tapism in the policies and execution of these policies at various tiers of governance.

Mr. Azhar Lashari, ActionAid Pakistan, directed a question to PDMA Punjab regarding the level of preparedness and the contingency plans in the wake of expected floods this year. While responding to Mr. Lashari, representative of PDMA-Punjab said that there is an active plan for the DRM both at provincial as well as district level and there are extensive meetings and workshops going on with the NGOs, Civil Society, civil administration and the relief organizations to further improve the preparedness level and decrease the response time.

Concluding Session

Remarks by the Chair

Mr. Ahmad Kamal
Member DRR, National Disaster Management Authority
Mr. Ahmad Kamal, Member DRR NDMA, congratulated and thanked the organizers of the dialogue, especially AAPK and I-SAPS, for inviting him to chair the policy dialogue on an important issue. He realized and appreciated the concerns of the presenters and other participants, and the need to have a viable and effective DRM in place. He agreed that the capacity building is a one area where NDMA and PDMAs need to excel in along with improvement in financial allocations for DRM. He said that there is a greater need to build dams to conserve the water resources and also thwart future disasters. While appreciating the key findings of the speakers on the legal, institutional, and financial dimensions of DRM in Pakistan, he agreed that the existing framework needs to be revisited at the earliest. He assured the participants of the dialogue that NDMA is geared up to work towards the achievement of the goal of achieving a comprehensive DRM framework in Pakistan.

Vote of Thanks and Recommendations of the Dialogue

Dr. Salman Humayun
Executive Director I-SAPS
Dr. Salman Hamayun offered vote of thanks to the participants on behalf of ActionAid Pakistan and Institute of Social and Policy Sciences. He said that through this discussion following recommendations have emerged and these will constitute the basis of future engagement with public sector as well as civil society. The key recommendations included:

i. There is need to revisit the legal framework for DRM in Pakistan to make the legislation more comprehensive and free of duplication.

ii. The existence of parallel legal structures and institutions results in unclear line of command and control and fixation of responsibility. There is still a need to have
clear legal instruments at each administrative level which should support and supplement each other;

iii. There is a need to allocate ample financial resources for a comprehensive DRM policy and infrastructure along with the response efforts;

iv. Public financing of DRM needs revamping and readjustment of our preferences and policy choices; the Disaster Management Funds as envisaged by NDM Act 2010, at federal and provincial level, should be constituted at the earliest.

v. Capacity deficit is an area which needs immediate attention;

vi. Coordination among all tiers of institutions meant for DRM like NDMA, PDMAs and DDMAs should be improved to ensure and efficient and effective response.

vii. There is a need to eliminate institutional gaps and to fully operationalize PDMAs and DDMAs to complete the institutional mechanism for DRM in Pakistan;

viii. There should be dedicated early warning system to confront the natural hazards and to reduce the life and property losses;

ix. DRM system needs to be strengthened financially and logistically. Moreover, infrastructure and trained human resource should be provided to DRM institutions to overcome the calamities and their risk;

x. Government should focus on disaster preparedness by allocating greater priority and resources to preparedness activities in order to reduce vulnerabilities to different types of disasters and to minimize the adverse impacts of disasters;
Annex: 1

Policy Dialogue
on
Floods 2010: Governance Issues in Disaster Risk Management
Organised by
ActionAid Pakistan
and
Institute of Social and Policy Sciences (I-SAPS)
Tuesday, June 21, 2011
Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad

Programme

03:15-03:30 p.m.  Registration of Participants
03:30-03:40 p.m.  Welcome Note
  Jamal Ahmed, Country Director ActionAid Pakistan

03:40-04:30 p.m.  Presentations
03:40-03:55 p.m.  Floods 2010: A Review of Institutional Response
  Azhar Lashari, Action Aid Pakistan
03:55-04:10 p.m.  Legal and Institutional Challenges of DRM in Pakistan
  Ahmad Ali, Institute of Social and Policy Sciences (I-SAPS)
04:10-04:30 p.m.  Financing of Disaster Risk Management in Pakistan
  Rabia Shabbir, Institute of Social and Policy Sciences (I-SAPS)

04:30-05:10 p.m.  Reflections
04:30-04:40 p.m.  Reflections by PDMA Baluchistan
04:40-04:50 p.m.  Reflections by PDMA Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
04:50-05:00 p.m.  Reflections by PDMA Punjab
05:00-05:10 p.m.  Reflections by PDMA Sindh

05:10-05:40 p.m.  Plenary
05:10-05:40 p.m.  Discussion

05:40-06:00 p.m.  Concluding Session
05:40-05:50 p.m.  Concluding Remarks by the Chair
  Ahmad Kamal, Member DRR, NDMA
05:50-06:00 p.m.  Vote of Thanks and Way Forward
  Dr. Salman Hamayun, Executive Director I-SAPS
06:00 p.m.  Refreshments
# Annex II

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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<th>S. No</th>
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<th>Organization</th>
<th>Contact No</th>
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Annex III

SELECT PRINT MEDIA COVERAGE

The policy dialogue received wide coverage from the print and electronic media, please find below a selection of newspaper clippings reporting the policy dialogue from leading English newspapers.

1. DAWN (22-6-2011)

Flood victims still await compensation

2. The News (23-6-2011)

Disaster management still faces flaws: Report
3. The Nation (22-06-2011)

Speakers favour advanced mechanism for effective disaster response

In a country facing regular floods, a lack of coordination among various government departments can lead to ineffective disaster response. According to experts, coordination among departments is crucial to ensure a smooth and effective disaster response. The Nation (22-06-2011) reports that speakers at a recent conference emphasized the need for an advanced mechanism for effective disaster response.

Legal expert Ahmad Ali suggested a comprehensive coordination among various government departments to improve disaster response. He recommended the establishment of a national coordination mechanism to ensure effective communication and decision-making during disasters.

Challenges in disaster management are not only technical but also require coordination among different stakeholders. The need for a comprehensive coordination mechanism was highlighted during the conference. Speakers agreed that such a mechanism would ensure that all departments work together effectively to mitigate the impact of disasters.