



NDMA INSIGHTS



APRIL 2024

News Letter

Towards a Disaster Resilient Pakistan



NDMA INSIGHTS

NDMA Newsletter
April 2024

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In This Issue

- ▶ **Chairman Message**
- ▶ **National Disaster Response Readiness**
- ▶ **DMCF**
- ▶ **National Summer Hazards**
- ▶ **LOU Btw NDMA & IRC**
- ▶ **Gaza Humanitarian Aid**
- ▶ **UNICEF regional Conference at Nepal**
- ▶ **NDMA Connects with 27 Countries**
- ▶ **Strategic Engagements**
- ▶ **Global Engagements**
- ▶ **Proactive Preparedness**
- ▶ **Media Engagements**

NDMA INSIGHTS

Chairman's Message

As we step into the spring season, we witnessed localized calamities in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir causing loss of precious lives due to the unprecedented spring rains and extreme weathers. These events have intensified by the relentless march of climate change, serve as a stark reminder of the fragility of our environment and the urgent need for adaptive strategies such as early warnings and anticipatory actions in place to reduce the risks of recurring disasters. Our country has been confronted with the harsh realities of climate change.



In our commitment to bolster, Pakistan's disaster management, NDMA has rolled out key initiatives to augment our efforts to manage extraordinary weather patterns in the country. We have launched a Coordination Forum to enhance collaboration at the Provincial level. Our partnerships with NGOs and INGOs have been strengthened to enhance our disaster readiness and response capabilities by declaration of Joint Initiatives to National Disaster Response Readiness-2024. Additionally, an agreement with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) has been formalized to reinforce our collective efforts in disaster resilience and preparedness.

The ongoing enhancement of our early warning systems, coupled with strategic alliances with a spectrum of organizations, remains a cornerstone of our approach. These concerted efforts are geared towards mitigating the effects of disasters and fostering a more resilient Pakistan.

I extend my appreciation for the active participations of all our strategic stakeholders for their collective resolve and actions to surmount the challenges posed by climate change. Their joint efforts have substantially fortified Pakistan's disaster management capabilities and have enabled communities to adeptly navigate the spectrum of emerging challenges.

Together, we can create a resilient Pakistan in the face of disasters!!

NDMA Launches Joint Initiatives to Bolster National Disaster Response Readiness-2024



In order to enhance collaboration with humanitarian organizations under Proactive Disaster Management, NDMA has launched a series of joint initiatives aimed at strengthening Pakistan's National Disaster Response Readiness 2024, at NDMA Headquarters. The session was attended by representatives and heads from various United Nations Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) in Pakistan. These organizations are actively working across multiple sectors within the diverse regions of Pakistan, striving towards a common goal of humanitarian aid and disaster mitigation with Government departments.

During this session, NDMA's NEOC shared a comprehensive outlook on potential hazards and emergencies expected in next 6 months. This crucial information serves as a foundation for these organizations to strategize and outline their response plans effectively, ensuring readiness and swift action in the face of adversity.

NDMA's efforts to synchronize disaster response mechanisms with humanitarian organizations underscore the importance of cooperation and preparedness in mitigating the impact of disasters. This collaboration paves the way for a more robust and efficient response system, ultimately benefiting the communities most vulnerable to disasters.



NDMA Launches Disaster Management Coordination Forum (DMCF)



In a landmark initiative to bolster provincial coordination, NDMA has established a national level forum titled 'Disaster Management Coordination Forum' (DMCF). This forum is designed to provide strategic guidance and to oversee, coordinate and monitor disaster management activities and interventions at both national and provincial levels.

The inaugural meeting of the DMCF was convened at NDMA Headquarters, presided by Chairman NDMA, Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik. The meeting was attended by all Members, including NDMA senior management, as well as the Director Generals of Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs), Gilgit-Baltistan Disaster Management Authority (GBDMA) and State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA).

The DMCF is set to meet quarterly to deliberate on matters outlined in the Terms of Reference (TORs). Additionally, NDMA's Disaster Risk Reduction Wing will provide secretariat support for the DMCF, ensuring streamlined operations and continuity.

This initiative marks a significant step forward in NDMA's commitment to enhancing disaster preparedness and response mechanisms across the nation, fostering a collaborative environment for effective disaster management.

NDMA Holds National Summer Hazards Coordination Conference 2024



NDMA held National Summer Hazards Coordination Conference 2024, presided by Chairman Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik with key stakeholders to strategize on mitigating disasters like heat waves, precipitation, water scarcity and floods.

The Conference was organized with a proactive approach to foster coordination among all stakeholders. It aimed to allow them to take preventive measures to safeguard lives, livelihoods, and infrastructure from the potential impact of disasters and hazards over the next 5-6 months.



NDMA & IRC signed LoU for Cooperation on Disaster Resilience & Preparedness

To foster Disaster Resilience, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) have formalized their commitment for enhancing resilience in Pakistan through a Letter of Understanding (LOU) signed on 16 April 2024 at IRC Pakistan office. Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik graced the signing ceremony. Ms. Shabnam Baloch, Country Director, IRC-Pakistan and Mr. Raza Iqbal signed the LoU between NDMA and IRC.

This initiative marks a significant collaboration between NDMA Pakistan leading disaster management authority and IRC a global humanitarian organization.

Chairman NDMA informed that NDMA's NEOC shared a comprehensive outlook on potential hazards and emergencies expected in next 6 months. This crucial information serves as a foundation for these organizations to strategize and outline their response plans effectively, ensuring readiness and swift action in the face of adversity.

In the realm of policy advocacy, NDMA and IRC will collaborate on providing technical support to academic working groups focusing on Disaster Management, Preparedness, and Resilience building upon evidence-based research analyzing existing policy frameworks and alignment with ongoing multi-sectoral climate adaptive efforts.

Ms. Shabnam Baloch, Country Director, IRC-Pakistan conveyed their resolute to the newly formed partnership.

Chairman NDMA and Country Director IRC, Pakistan expressed their resolve to advancing the resilience agenda through tri-party partnerships involving relevant state institutions, civil society, and community voices into decision-making processes.

Through this partnership, NDMA and IRC are committed to share learning resources, technical expertise, and efforts to address the impacts of climate change and disasters. Their collaborative endeavors aim to foster a more resilient society in Pakistan, ensuring better preparedness and response mechanisms for future challenges.

NDMA & IRC signed LoU for Cooperation on Disaster Resilience & Preparedness



Pakistan Sends the 8th Shipment of Humanitarian Aid for People of Palestine



In accordance with the Government of Pakistan's instructions to provide humanitarian support to the people of Gaza, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in collaboration with Al-Khidmat has coordinated to send another commercial cargo ship for the 8th tranche of relief assistance.

Additional Foreign Secretary Mr. Ahmed Amjad Ali, Palestinian Ambassador to Pakistan Mr. Ahmad Rabaie, Representatives of Al Khidmat Foundation, Senior officials of NDMA, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Armed Forces attended the send-off ceremony at South Asia Pakistan Terminal (SAPT) Karachi. The shipment is destined to reach Said Port, Egypt for further distribution to the People of Gaza.

This 8th relief consignment comprises of 350 tons of aid including medicines, hygiene kits, Female Dignity kits, dry ration, ready-to-eat food, jerry cans, and tents as per needs in Gaza.

Earlier, NDMA sent six relief consignments comprising 630 tons of aid which included special winterized tents, blankets, surgical supplies, medicines, and food packs.



NDMA Participates in UNICEF South Asia Regional Learning and Knowledge Exchange Conference



UNICEF South Asia Regional Learning and Knowledge Exchange Meeting on Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction & Disaster Management was held from 22nd to 24th of April 2024, in Kathmandu - Nepal.

Member (DRR) Mohammad Idrees Mehsud represented the Institutional Leadership and Coordination of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Pakistan focusing on the proactive initiatives of NDMA, National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) and its strategic capabilities at National Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Actions, Disaster Management Coordination Forum (DMCF). PM GCC presented Gender and Child Cell (GCC), NDMA as the whole knowledge exchange was focused on CCCDRR.

UNICEF highlighted the Gender and Child Cell (GCC) as a remarkable success story in the SAARC region as no other country has a dedicated cell/wing in their respective Disaster Management Authorities to deal with the needs and concerns of Vulnerable Communities (women, children, elderly, disabled and other marginalized communities).



NDMA'S NIDM Connects with 27 Countries for South-South Development: A Historic Agreement Signed



In a historic moment for National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), a groundbreaking agreement was signed on 4th April 2024, linking the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), national think tank of NDMA, with 27 countries under the auspices of the Commission on Science and Technology for South-South Cooperation (COMSATS).

The agreement, signed by the Chief Coordinator of NIDM, Mr. M. Tanveer Piracha, and the Executive Director of the COMSATS Secretariat, H.E. Ambassador M. Nafees Zakirya, marks a significant leap in global partnerships for NDMA. The primary objective of this partnership is to facilitate the exchange of research, technology, development, and expertise among member nations.

This partnership aims to facilitate exchanges in various fields such as disaster management, climate resilience, sustainable development, and technological innovation. It is expected to promote advancements in science and technology across the 27 member nations, fostering a culture of cooperation and mutual learning.

The signing ceremony was attended by key dignitaries and representatives from NDMA and the COMSATS Secretariat, emphasizing the importance of this strategic partnership in addressing global challenges and driving sustainable development goals.

The agreement signifies NDMA's continued efforts to strengthen international partnerships and leverage collective expertise for the benefit of communities worldwide. It sets a precedent for future collaborations and underscores the role of science and technology in advancing global development agendas.

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



A delegation from Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry visited National Emergencies Operation Centre to gain insights into its operational capacity at NDMA HQs. The visit aimed to familiarize the delegation with the cutting-edge facilities and protocols in place to handle emergencies effectively. Chairman NDMA briefed the delegation on NEOC's capabilities, infrastructure, and skilled personnel, while ICCI President praised its commitment to safeguarding Pakistanis, emphasizing collaboration for enhancing emergency preparedness.

Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik met with PM's Coordinator on Climate Change Romina Khurshid Alam at NEOC, He briefed her on NDMA's NEOC capabilities, including weather projections, early warning dissemination, anticipatory actions, and risk communication to communities. PM's Coordinator for Climate Change praised NDMA's efforts and stressed the need to enhance the nation's preparedness for climate-induced emergencies.



STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



Dr. Luo Dapeng, WHO Representative in Pakistan, called on Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik, Who briefed him on NEOC capabilities, including early warning systems, proactive preparedness, global outreach, and risk communication. The NEOC demonstrated advanced techniques using mobile units, satellite technology, and modern applications for disaster-prone area monitoring.



PM (GCC) represented National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) as panelist in “Inclusivity and Economic Empowerment for people with Disabilities in Pakistan” conducted by Special Talent Exchange Programme (STEP) on April 17th, 2024.

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS

NDMA's RMC held meeting with Jordan DA Brig Gen Abdallah Ahmad Shtaiwi Al Naimi. The discussion centered on bilateral exchanges aimed at cultivating a lasting relationship, as well as deliberations on the Sim-ex Concept Note and NDMA Capability Paper. Additionally, there was an exploration of the feasibility of virtual/hybrid simulation exercises.



NDMA's RMC held meeting with Additional Secretary (SCO) Marghoob Saleem Butt and Director General (SCO) Altamash Wazir Khan at Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The discussion focused on potential areas of collaboration between SCO member states and Pakistan in disaster management, specifically climate adaptation and mitigation. NDMA's position was presented at the SCO meeting of experts in Beijing, along with a tentative schedule of simulation exercises with SCO member states.

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



In a constructive call on by Catholic Relief Service CRS to chairman NDMA, Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik and CRS Regional Director Hani El- Mahdi discussed potential collaborations to bolster disaster management efforts in Pakistan. Key areas included improving emergency response coordination, establishing advanced mobile capabilities for DEOCs and NEOC, and strengthening technical linkages between CRS's regional/global operations and NEOC. Emphasis was placed on enhancing community resilience through capacity building, reflecting a commitment to leverage CRS's regional experience to bolster Pakistan's disaster preparedness and response.



Mr. Carlos Torres Vidal, Director International Atomic Energy Agency IAEA&ICE called on Chairman NDMA Lt Gen Inam Haider Malik followed by brief of newly built NEOC at NDMA Head Quarters. He was briefed about the capabilities of Pakistan's new NEOC and its predictive modeling for disaster management.

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



POPULATION COUNCIL

Ideas. Evidence. Impact.

NDMA's Project Manager (GCC) Ms. Zulekha attended a meeting with the Interim Co-President (Mr. James Sailer) of the Population Council, New York, on April 24th, 2024. The discussion revolved around coordinating efforts to integrate gender perspectives and cater to the requirements of vulnerable populations throughout the Disaster Risk Reduction & Management (DRR/M) cycle.



Civil Servants of various service groups from 35th Senior Management Course undergoing at NIM Islamabad visited NDMA HQs. The officers were briefed about capabilities of National Emergencies Operation Centre to deal with hazards & vulnerabilities and disaster management outlook through predictive modelling. Officers commended NDMA's proactive approach in the form of the state-of-the art NEOC.

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS



The Defence Attaché of Jordan, Brigadier General Abdallah Ahmad Shtaiwi Al Naimi, and Assistant Defence Attaché of Kazakhstan, Lieutenant Colonel Kuanysh Zharasbay, visited NEOC at NDMA HQs. Discussions covered NEOC's early warning capabilities and risk assessment, utilizing platforms like the National Common Operating Picture (NCOP). The visit also included insights into NDMA's assistance to countries confronting disasters, as well as an overview of the NDMA App and its functionalities. Engagements with regional organizations and counterparts of NDMA were explored, along with discussions on the military's role in domestic and international disaster management.

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. Christoph Lehman (Mountain River Expert) aims to partner with NDMA for tailored projects in mountainous river and hill torrent areas. This collaboration seeks to enhance disaster prevention measures and resilience in high-risk environments, emphasizing proactive strategies for community safety. He actively engaged in risk assessments, hazard mapping, and flood prevention strategies for mountainous rivers and torrent areas. His work, including discharge and sediment assessments, significantly contributes to challenging flood protection projects.



In a recent online meeting, representatives from NDMA, met with Dr. Laura Skrip, Associate Professor at the University of Liberia, Liberia. The focus of the meeting was on the conceptualization of a research topic titled "Community Engagement in Disaster and Outbreak Response." "This collaborative effort aims to delve into innovative strategies for enhancing community involvement in disaster and outbreak response initiatives. The discussions centered on identifying key research objectives, methodologies, and potential areas of impact to address pressing challenges in disaster management and public health.



Proactive Preparedness



Relief Items Acquisition

NDMA is actively procuring essential relief items to bolster our disaster response capabilities. This includes acquiring 470 de-watering pumps, 33 inflatable boats, 45 fiber boats and 417 ultra-filtration plants. These items will enhance our readiness to swiftly address emergency situations.

Establishment of Mobile Emergency Operation Center (M-EOC)

NDMA is working on establishing a Mobile Emergency Operations Center (M-EOC) to strengthen our command and control capabilities during disasters in affected areas. This initiative will enable rapid and coordinated response efforts in the field.

Collapsible Water Tanks Procurement

As part of our ongoing efforts, NDMA is procuring 500 collapsible water tanks to augment our water storage and distribution capacity during relief operations. Ensuring access to clean water remains a top priority in disaster-affected areas.

MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS



DISCOVER PAKISTAN



HUM NEWS

MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS



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