



DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN SOUTH AFRICA

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DRR and DRM in South Africa

South Africa is a developing country in the southern part of Africa. The country embraced disaster risk reduction (DRR) as its new disaster risk management (DRM) approach although that was being implemented differently in specific countries. During the research special relevant literature was studied. Pending the research the authoritative citizens of the relevant countries were asked, which was included in the poster. The approaches were customized to suit specific country's prevailing political, and administrative systems that resultantly, their DRR challenges and successes also varied. The poster also shows the type of the disasters in South Africa.

Type of disasters in South Africa

Type of disasters	South Africa
Total country population as of 2014	52 981 991
Floods	37.9%
Droughts	Insignificant
Landslides	Insignificant
Storms	33.3%
Wildlife induced disasters	13.6%
Extreme temperatures	Insignificant
Earthquakes	6.1%
Other disasters	9.1%
Floods	55.9%
Storms	17.9%
Earthquakes	Insignificant
Wildlife induced	13.6%
Floods	30.4%
Storms	20.8%
Droughts	33.4%
Wildlife induced	14.7%
Earthquakes	Insignificant

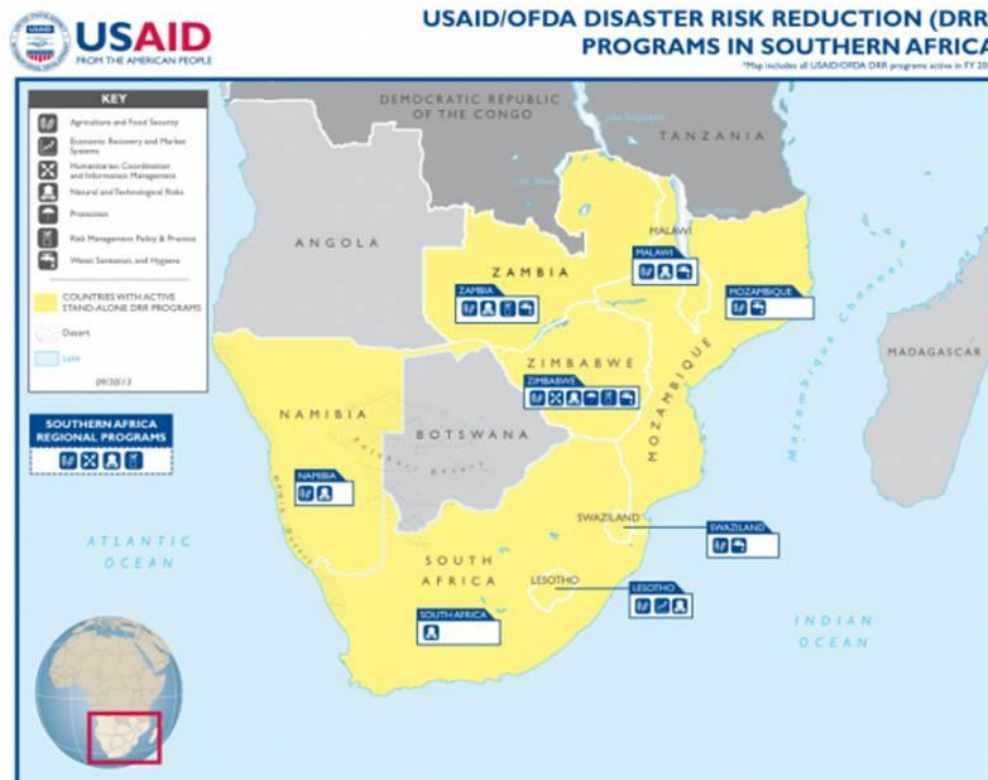
Disaster risk institutions



The National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) was established to coordinate DRM activities in South Africa. It was being led by the director general and it was located in the department of cooperative governance. It can impress to note that the director general's position was hierarchically reporting directly to the responsible minister of government Long Term Adaptation Scenarios. The department also had powers to monitor related stakeholders to ensure they complied with the national DRR laws.

DRR challenges

- DRR implementation challenges noted in South Africa were many despite presence of key legislation and administrative structures. Due to stringent minimum requirements to be fulfilled before the fund could be released. Also, there was lack of knowledge in some local governments, about those minimum requirements while the ability to meet those requirements generally lacked and therefore, there was not hope for ever receiving the funds in some instances. The other problem was in the formulation of national DRR policies and programmes.



DRR challenges

- Consultancies were contracted for the tasks and surely, absolutely best theoretical documents were being developed but they were proving difficult to implement at local levels since most of their views were rarely considered during policy and programmes formulation phases. Therefore, since DRR is a cross-cutting and whole of community endeavour, the same approach should be employed when developing relevant national development policies and plans. On the other hand, the role of the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act stated above was constrained because its powers were subordinate other Acts of Parliament except by-laws

References

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