

**Regional Conference Strategies and Tools for integrating  
DRR into Development Planning and Financing  
16 -18 February 2015, Bangkok**

**Country Report - Bhutan**



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རྒྱུ་རྒྱུ་འཛིན་སྲིད་ལས་ཁུངས།

*"Reducing Disaster Risks for a Safe and Happy Bhutan"*

ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN

Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs

Department of Disaster Management

P.O Box : 1493, Thimphu-11001



*EARTH*



*FIRE*



*WATER*



*AIR*



# Presentation Outline

- I. Country Profile
- II. Hazards in Bhutan
- III. Present Situation
- IV. Gaps
- V. Needs
- VI. Challenges
- V. Way forward

## **Country Profile**

- **Total land area:** 38,394 sq km
- **Topography:** Mountainous terrain (100 metres in the South to 7500 metres in the North)
- **Forest cover:** 72 % of the country
- **Total population:** 700,000 (approx.)
- **Development philosophy:** Gross National Happiness
- **Main economy:** Hydropower & Tourism

# Hazards in Bhutan

- Earthquakes
- Landsides
- Forest Fires
- Windstorm
- Floods
- Glacier Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs)
- Epidemics, pests and diseases, etc.
- Chemicals (minimal)

# Disaster events during the 10FYP period

	Disaster Event	Year	Loss Est. (Nu. million)	% of conc. FY outlay	Expend. (Nu. million)	% of conc. FY outlay	Remarks
1	Floods	May 2009	766	21.43	321.40	7.743	Percentage of capital outlay for 2009-2010 - Nu. 12,929.143 million
2	Earthquake	Sept. 2009	2005		679.67*		
3	Wamrong Fire	Oct. 2010			98.335**	0.51	3.6 (construction of new homes) 0.179 (relief and recovery expenses for Wamrong fire) 4.766 (relief and recovery for Chamkhar fires) 25.4 (Commercial insurance claims paid by RICB - Not included as Expenditure)
4	1 <sup>st</sup> Chamkhar fire	Oct. 2010					
5	2 <sup>nd</sup> Chamkhar fire	Feb. 2011					
6	3 <sup>rd</sup> Chamkhar fire	May 2011					
7	Windstorms	2011					
			2869.545				

# Present Situation

- DDM established in 2008
- Establishment of response capacity (SAR team) at the national and local level.
- Implementation of CBDRM at the local Government level
- MRG both at Central and Local Level formed
- Trained volunteer group (*De-Supp*) mainly to cater response services during the disasters

# - Policies

enacted in 2013

Year Plan (July 2013 – June 2018)

*improved disaster resilience and  
environment mainstreamed*

disaster resilience, preparedness and  
resilience strengthened

environmental impacts from snow and  
drought reduced

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_4511](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_4511)

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