



GOOD PRACTICES IN PARTICIPATORY DISASTER RISK ASSESSMENT

Inclusive Disaster Risk Assessment as the Foundation for Disaster Management Planning

The Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA) is one of the most important documents prepared by local governments to support disaster preparedness and response planning. DRA's provide a full picture of disaster risks and analyse the level of threat, vulnerability and capacity in a given area. The DRA process aims to identify the potential impacts of potential disasters, which are defined by BNPB (Regulation No. 2/2012 on the General Guidelines for Disaster Risk Assessments) as loss of life, loss of assets/livelihoods, and environmental destruction. The DRA is a critical reference document for local governments for the development of their Disaster Management Plans, which in turn form the basis for mainstreaming disaster management in local development plans.

On 16 June 2022, the SIAP SIAGA program hosted a peer learning event to discuss why the development of DRAs in an inclusive and participatory manner is both strategic and sustainable. With more than 150 participants from across 14 provinces and national government institutions, the online event tried to unpack how and why this approach is important and to propose several policy recommendations. Four resource

persons were invited to share their experiences in developing inclusive and participatory DRAs: Agus Hery Purnomo (BPBD North Lombok Province), Ardin (Bappeda Central Sulawesi), Hasan Jaelani (DRR Forum Sampang, East Java), and Eko Teguh Paripurno (UPN Yogyakarta).

Several key points and good practices were identified encompassing issues such as preparation and data collection, involvement of key stakeholders, and the effective use of DRA's for local development planning process.

Three Tips to Ensure DRA Development is Participatory and Inclusive

Prioritise both quantitative and qualitative data collection and collaborative approaches to data collection

The development of DRAs rely heavily on access to quality data, particularly related to poverty and vulnerability. The data required is both qualitative and quantitative. Quantitative data such as poverty data needs to be properly disaggregated including by sex, age, vulnerability and geographic location. In many cases this data comes from other agencies such as the Civil Registration and Population Agency, BPBD, or village governments, so procedures to access this information need to be clear and agreed. This information should

be complemented by qualitative data (i.e. social capacity data, vulnerability data, risk data) obtained through a participatory and inclusive process with communities. Acquiring disability data is challenging, and in many cases necessitates inputs from disability organisations, which further demonstrates the importance of participatory approaches. Moreover, DRAs require technical and scientific information to assess the risk and vulnerability context of the area, so inputs from professional associations such as the Indonesian Geologist Association (IAGI), Indonesian Disaster Experts Association (IABI), Indonesian Meteorological and Geophysics Agency (BMKG), and NGOs that focus on disaster issues is necessary.

Leverage the knowledge and resources of DRR Forums

DRAs need to be developed based on local political context, resources and capacities. Key stakeholders in the community, including local religious leaders and local community leaders should be engaged in the data collection and analysis, and helping to bring in the perspectives of women, youth, and people with disabilities.

BPBDs can also leverage the knowledge, of DRR Forums. DRR Forums are particularly useful in helping to verify information about communities.

Strengthen local ownership of DRA and Disaster Management Planning Processes

DRAs are the basis for the preparation of Disaster Management Plans and are a mandatory requirement of the Minimum Service Standards for Disaster Management. In order to be relevant to the local context, DRAs should be prepared by local governments and involve relevant stakeholders to ensure that analysis is based on appropriate data.

In some cases, use of external experts to manage DRA process has limited participation from local stakeholders and subsequently affected the quality of analysis and local ownership.

When DRA preparation is led by local government with active participation of the community (serving as an awareness raising activity in and of itself), there is better understanding of disaster threats, vulnerabilities and capacities. In turn this leads to greater awareness on how to develop Disaster Management plans and commitment to prioritise disaster management in wider development planning.

Conclusion

The above recommendations have been gathered from the insights of local governments in Indonesia during the development of DRAs for their communities. These are not academic or theoretic lessons, but rather practical recommendations from people who have participated in the DRA process or who have worked with DRA documents to inform future planning.

Overall, it was acknowledged that DRAs should be led by local government in order to optimise local resources and to ensure that relevance to local context. However, DRA development requires appropriate technical expertise, and as such local government can draw on the knowledge and resources of local stakeholders, such as the DRR Forums, which include academia and private sector actors with specific skill sets.

Moreover, with local ownership of DRAs, Disaster Management and wider local development planning is enhanced, through greater buy in and confidence. Further, a participatory process, ensures a greater degree of inclusion in the information, and consequently increases the capacity of local government to plan for, and respond to, the needs to vulnerable and marginalised groups, particularly people with disabilities, during times of crisis. This, in turn, strengthens the resilience of the entire community.

About SIAP SIAGA

SIAP SIAGA is a five-year partnership program between the Governments of Indonesia and Australia. The program aims to improve the management of disasters and increase community resilience in Indonesia and in the Indo-Pacific Region. Our approach is measured, reflective and forward-leaning which helps us to deliver the best results for DFAT and Indonesia's communities.