

Annex 1: Terms of Reference

Preparation of a Status Report on Natural Disaster Preparedness Plans

Background

There is a growing concern within the international community to improve disaster management and preparedness. As a response, ICIMOD has initiated work on collating important information about disaster preparedness in the region through a project titled 'Living with Risks – Sharing Knowledge on Disaster Preparedness in the Himalayan Region'. The specific objective of the project is to support key practitioners with current knowledge in the field of disaster preparedness, mainly floods, landslides and earthquakes; and build capacity in multi-hazard risk assessment, as well as provide a platform for interaction and exchange of experiences. The prime target countries for the project are Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan, and with the mountain areas in these countries being of particular interest.

The project is funded by the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department (DG ECHO) and will be implemented between 1 April 2006 and 30 June 2007.

As part of the activities, the project will promote exchange of experiences, best practices and cross-learning between practitioners through the arrangement of two regional workshops and the establishment of a website as the basis for knowledge networking.

The first workshop is anticipated to take place in early August. The workshop will focus on disaster preparedness in general and plans for disaster preparedness in particular. In this case, Plans on a national level are of prime interest, but plans on district and community levels are also of great importance.

Objective of the task

The objective is to provide an account on state-of-the-art on disaster preparedness plans in each of the four target countries: Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan. There will be a document for each country, with the aim to provide as complete account of existing plans as possible. The account will form basis for a gap analysis during the forthcoming workshop regarding Natural Disaster Preparedness Plans (NDPP) in the four target countries.

Scope of work

The consultant shall prepare a status report on Natural Disaster Preparedness Plans (NDPP) in his/her country.

A) This report shall list all relevant Preparedness Plans on a national level in relation to three main natural hazards:

- Floods (including flash floods)
- Landslides (and related land mass movements)
- Earthquakes

When applicable, a mountain focus shall be taken.