



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

THE NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICY



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

P. O. Box 3021

DAR ES SALAAM

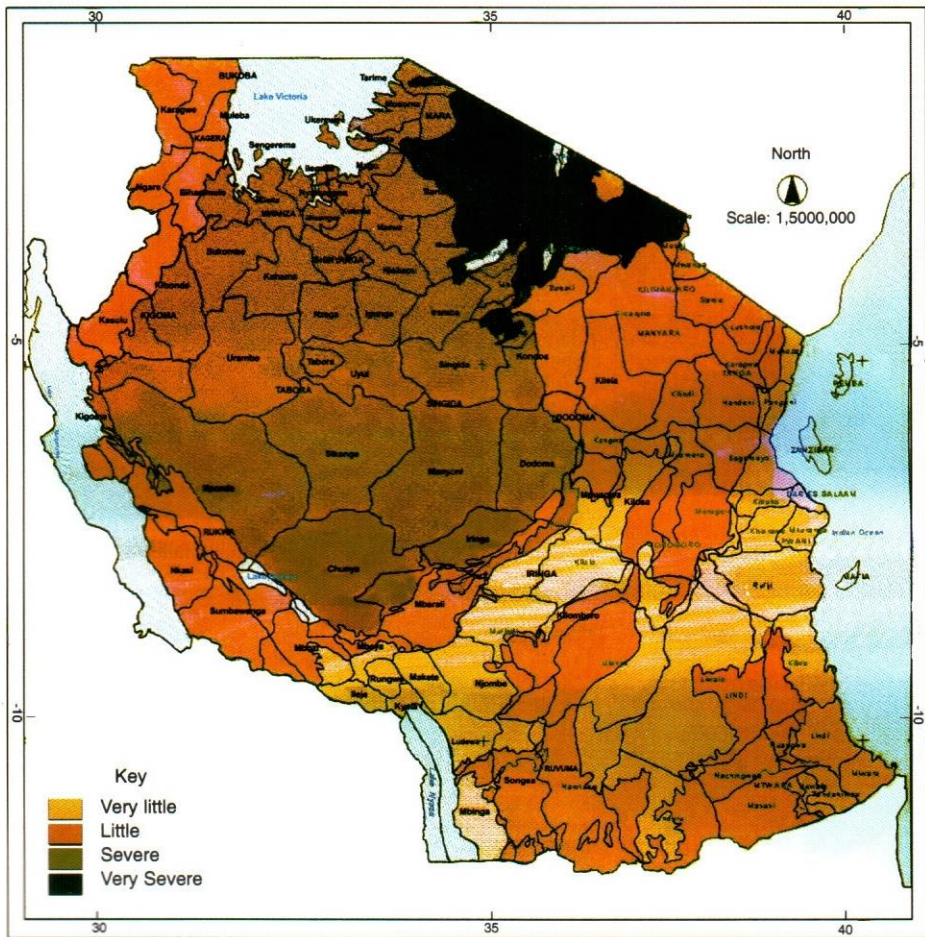
Tel: 022 2117249-53

Fax: 022 2117266

E-mail: ps@pmo.go.tz

PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER, DAR ES SALAAM-TANZANIA

DROUGHT



THE NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS.....	v
1.0 CHAPTER ONE: BACKGROUND.....	1
1.1 The Rationale	1
1.2 Policy Objectives and Scope.....	2
1.2.1 Objectives.....	2
1.2.2 Scope	2
2.0 CHAPTER TWO: DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENTS	
2.1 Disaster Management Elements.....	3
2.1.1 Disaster Prevention and Mitigation.....	3
2.1.2 Disaster Preparedness.....	4
2.1.3 Disaster Response.....	4
2.1.4 Disaster Recovery.....	5
2.1.5 Post Disaster Review.....	6
2.1.6 Funding.....	6
2.1.7 Cross Cutting Policy Issues.....	7
2.1.7.1 Special Groups.....	7
2.1.7.2 Regional Cooperation.....	8
2.1.7.3 Warning System.....	8
2.1.7.4 Relief to Disaster Victims.....	9
2.1.7.5 Environmental Conservation.....	10
3.0 CHAPTER THREE: INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT	
3.1 Overall Frame Work	11
3.1.1 Committees	11
3.1.2 Disaster Management Commission	11
3.1.3 Leading Agencies.....	11
3.1.4 Technical Committees.....	12
3.1.5 Disaster Management Units	12
3.1.6 Disaster Response Teams	12
3.1.7 Community Level.....	12
3.2 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OTHER STAKEHOLDERS	
3.2.1 The Armed Forces.....	12
3.2.2 Private Sector Participation.....	13
3.2.3 Fire & Rescue Department.....	13
3.2.4 Police Forces.....	13
3.2.5 Non-Governmental Organizations.....	13

3.2.6	International Agencies.....	13
3.2.7	The Media.....	14
3.2.8	Local Community and Individual Families	14
3.3	Legal Framework	14
3.4	Monitoring and Evaluation	14
3.5	The way forward.....	15

Annex: 1: Disaster Management Structure

Annex: 2: Responsibilities of the Committees and Other Stakeholders

1.0	Disaster Management Commission.....	17
1.1	General Role.....	17
1.2	Specific Roles.....	17
2.0	Regional Structures and Responsibilities	18
2.1	Regional Disaster Management Committee (REDMAC)	18
2.2	Roles of the REDMAC.....	18
3.0	District Structures and Responsibilities.....	19
3.1	District Disaster Management Committee (DIDMAC)	19
3.2	Roles of DIDMAC	19
4.0	Community Level.....	19
4.1	Village Structures and their Responsibilities.....	19
4.1.1	Ward Disaster Management Committee (WADMAC)	20
4.1.2	Village Disaster Management Committee (VIDMAC)	20
4.1.3	Roles of VIDMAC and WADMAC.....	20
5.0	The Household's Responsibilities.....	21
5.1	Roles and Responsibilities of Households	21
6.0	The Disaster Management Forum.....	21
7.0	Early warning.....	21
8.0	The Role Of NGOs And Other Stakeholders.....	22
8.1	The NGOs.....	22
8.2	Media.....	22
8.3	UN Agencies.....	22
8.4	Tanzania Red Cross Society.....	23

ANNEXES

ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.
CBO	Community Based Organization.
CPS	Civil Protection System.
DC	District Commissioner.
DED	District Executive Director.
DIDMAC	District Disaster Management Committee.
DIA	Disaster Impact Assessment.
DMD	Disaster Management Department.
DMC	Disaster Management Commission.
DRCD	Disaster Relief Coordination Department.
ECC	Economic Committee of the Cabinet.
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment.
EPRU	Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit.
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization.
HIV	Human Immune Virus.
LA	Local Authority.
MoAFS	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security.
MoCT	Ministry of Communication and Transport.
MoWL	Ministry of Water and Livestock.
MPs	Members of Parliament.
NGO	Non Governmental Organization.
PORALG	President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government.
RAS	Regional Administrative Secretary.
RC	Regional Commissioner.
REDMAC	Regional Disaster Management Committee.
RDP	Rural Development Policy.
SOP	Standard Operational Procedures.
TACAIDS	Tanzania Commission for AIDS.
TCAA	Tanzania Civil Aviation Agency.
TC	Technical Committee.
TANDREC	Tanzania Disaster Relief Committee.
TMA	Tanzania Meteorological Agency.
THA	Tanzania Harbours Authority.
TPDF	Tanzania People's Defence Forces.
TRC	Tanzania Railways Corporation.
TRCS	Tanzania Red Cross Society.
UN	United Nations.
UNDP	United Nations Development Program.
URT	United Republic of Tanzania.
USA	United States of America .
UN	United Nations.
VIDMAC	Village Disaster Management Committee.
WADMA	Ward Disaster Management Committee.
WHO	World Health Organization.

FOREWORD

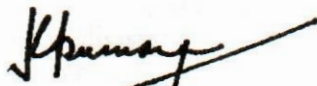
It has increasingly been recognized that disasters are on the increase world wide, and Tanzania is no exception. The country has been experiencing a number of natural and man made disasters that have caused losses of life, property and destruction to environment.

Response to these disasters indicates great weakness in all stages of disaster management cycle from mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation. The weaknesses are due to inadequate Institutional arrangements, legal frame work and technical capabilities in the existing agencies, calling for an urgent action to reduce vulnerability among our people.

A properly defined policy frame work is crucial for disaster surveillance and management as a measure to reduce vulnerability and hence poverty reduction. The thrust of the disaster policy therefore is to have, safe livelihoods with minimum disaster interruptions, through strengthening capacities within the institutions both Public, Private as well as civil society; so that these institutions are able to undertake effectively the activities associated with all stages of Disaster management cycle.

This policy preparation process was participatory, involving crucial stakeholders from Regional to National levels between years 2000 and 2003. Their in-depth and rich contributions from the members made it possible to complete this document.

The successes of this policy document rely to a great extent on the cooperation and commitment of all stakeholders. Let me therefore take this opportunity to invite all stakeholders to play their part in making this policy a reality.



Frederick T. Sumaye

**PRIME MINISTER OF
THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

May, 2004

1. BACKGROUND

Tanzania has been experiencing a number of disasters for years now. The disaster history can be traced back in 1872. These have caused losses of life, property and destruction to environment. A disaster is a serious disruption of the functioning of a society causing wide spread human, material and environmental losses, which exceed the ability of the affected society to cope with using its own resources. The occurrence of disasters can be termed as rapid or slow onset depending on the speed and span of time of origination and impact. Both natural and human made disasters can be slow or rapid.

Common hazards that carry the danger of causing disasters in Tanzania include epidemics, pest infestation, droughts, floods, major transport and industrial accidents, refugees and fires. Strong winds and earthquakes are few and occur rarely, others occur more regularly.

Disasters can produce complex emergencies in some incidences. The severity of a disaster impact on a population is dependent upon its capacity to absorb, deflect or manage the actual disasters.

Considering the disaster threats in the country, the Government passed an Act of Parliament known as Disaster Relief Coordination Act No 9, of 1990 and established an Inter Ministerial Committee known as Tanzania Disaster Relief Committee (TANDREC) for overseeing and coordinating overall relief operations at national level. Similar committees were to be established at regional and district levels. However, this policy addresses all issues embracing the disaster cycle, namely: prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

1.1 The Rationale

The thrust of this disaster management policy therefore is to have, "safe livelihood with minimum disaster interruptions to social and economic development issues". The intention is to develop adequate capacity for coordination and cooperation for comprehensive disaster management among key players at all levels. This is possible by mainstreaming disaster management activities as an integral part of development programs of all sectors in the country. Since vulnerability reduction is synonymous to poverty reduction, disaster mitigation and prevention measures are essentially a development process, which cannot be undertaken without properly defined policy framework. Policy framework is therefore a critical factor both for disaster surveillance and mitigation.

1.2 Policy Objectives and Scope

1.2.1 Objectives

- (i) Develop higher level of preparedness, response and mitigation capacity for all types of disasters;
- (ii) Promote public knowledge and awareness of disaster and enhance the involvement of the community in disaster management;
- (iii) Establish and maintain an effective institutional arrangement for the coordination and collaboration;
- (iv) Promote research, information generation and dissemination.
- (v) Mainstream disaster management issues into development plans and other sectoral policies and programs at all levels

1.2.3 Scope

- (i) Sustain activities aimed at reducing or eliminating long-term risks to people and property from hazards and their effects.
- (ii) Build the emergency management capacity to effectively prepare for, mitigation against, respond to, and recover from any hazard by planning, training, research, rehearsals and investigations.
- (iii) Conduct emergency operations to save life, protect livelihood and property by positioning emergency equipment and supplies, evacuating potential victims, providing food, water, medical care, restoring critical public services, etc.

2.0 DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENTS**2.1 DISASTER MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS**

Disaster management involves planning, coordinating, controlling, implementation and evaluation of a set of activities that entails four main elements. These includes prevention or mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, which form a cycle of activities. This continuous process is always embedded in implementation of activities in these elements stage by stage. The first stages are mitigation and preparedness, which are regarded as development activities followed by response and ending with recovery, which is a last element comprising rehabilitation and reconstruction activities. Post disaster review is an additional element that is not part of the disaster cycle that should be given attention. Like other programm activities, the review of disaster operations is important.

2.1.1 Disaster Prevention and Mitigation**(a) Issue:**

Disaster prevention and mitigation aim at addressing harmful effects of disaster event on community and property. Experience shows that, sector development plans do not capture comprehensively the elements of prevention and mitigation to disasters. The linkages among sectors are not well integrated. In some cases, where disaster preventive regulations exist they are not strongly enforced giving chance for disasters to take place.

(b) Objective:

To mainstream disaster management issues in stakeholder's policies, plans and strategies to enhance mitigation and prevention measures.

(c) Policy statements

- (i) All stakeholders to ensure that disaster prevention and mitigation activities are included in all sectoral plans;
- (ii) All stakeholders should ensure adherence to laws and regulations governing all aspects of disaster management related to buildings, health, traffic, fire, land use, environment and industrial wastes.

2.1.2 Disaster Preparedness

(a) Issue:

Disaster preparedness is an aspect that involves putting in place appropriate administrative, legislative and technical measures to minimize the adverse effects of those affected by disasters. It includes warning systems, training, organization communication systems, and evacuation plans and resources mobilisation. This exercise requires regular systems plan review, modification, update and test. Currently all these systems are not well developed and some do not exist at all. Where they exist they are not tested to see their effectiveness and efficiency.

(b) Objective:

Ensure all institutions responsible for disaster management are prepared, coordinated and equipped with resources to handle disasters e.g. hospitals and fire brigades.

(c) Policy statements:

- (i) The Disaster Relief Coordination Act 9 of 1990 should be amended to reflect the complete disaster management concept;
- (ii) Lead sectors in cooperation with other stakeholders in specific disasters should establish and put in place all essential equipments, warning systems and intervention mechanisms for different types of disasters.

2.1.3 Disaster Response:

(a) Issue:

Disaster response aims at saving life and addressing the immediate needs of the affected population. Activities under response include: warning system, rapid damage and needs assessment, resource mobilization, search and rescue, evacuation, relief distribution and construction of temporary shelter. Experience shows that, the Disaster Relief Coordination Act No. 9 of 1990 guides response to emergencies and has emphasis in relief distribution and not disaster management per se. Sub national structures are not well constituted and other necessary requirements for effective response are inadequate. The legislation lacks motivation in its execution and other stakeholders are not adequately mentioned in disaster management activities.

(b) Objective:

The government should establish legal, administrative and institutional arrangements for effective disaster response to ensure that all response activities are carried out in a coordinated manner.

(c) Policy statements

- (i) The Government and other stakeholders to establish response mechanism with appropriate command structure, trained personnel teams equipped with appropriate tools for all types of disasters.
- (ii) Conduct regular reviews, modifications, update and test of response systems to ensure their effectiveness and efficiency.
- (iv) Put in place a regional cooperation system to ensure prompt acquisition of assistance from other countries.

2.1.4 Disaster Recovery

(a) Issue:

Recovery phase aims at getting the affected population back to normal such as restoration of lifeline just after a disaster incidence water system, shelter, electricity, communication, medical services, etc. Reconstruction phase involves long-term full restoration of all services such as replacement of seriously damaged physical structures and revitalization of the economy. Experience has been to handle response activities while those related to rehabilitation and reconstruction remain unattended for a long time due to lack of budgetary allocations and commitment for such activities. This habit has eroded long gained development.

(b) Objective

Government to ensure that adequate resources are available for immediate recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities to restore damaged property and the affected population back to normal.

(c) Policy Statements

- (i) Respective sectors should budget for eventualities and special arrangements should be developed to ensure immediate restoration of damaged infrastructure;

- (ii) Social safety nets and counselling should be established to assist affected population to get back to normal;
- (iii) Local authorities should ensure full participation of affected population in disaster recovery programs.

2.1.5 Post Disaster Review

(a) Issue:

Experience and lessons gained from a disaster incident are useful in improving future disaster management. The practice has been to establish teams of enquiry for fact-finding and it has neither been a practice to conduct debriefing after incidence nor is there a practice to review the implementation of the inquiry team's findings.

(b) Objective:

The Government to make it mandatory to conduct post disaster review and debriefing and see to it that lessons learnt are utilised in future operations.

(c) Policy Statements

- (i) Leading Agencies and incident commanders for each disaster event should conduct thorough and comprehensive review and debriefing of disaster impacts and operations.

2.1.6 Funding

(a) Issue:

In times of emergency, disaster reserve funds and stocks need be readily accessible to all stakeholders dealing with disaster relief programmes. Memoranda of understanding and agreements between Government and stakeholders need to be instituted to warrant prompt use of resources of each stakeholders, in times of emergency which will substantially enable the country to mitigate and prepare for disasters. In practice there has been no such arrangement.

(b) Objective:

The Government and stakeholders dealing with disasters to grant adequate budgetary allocations to fulfil their roles. To have enough resources to prevent, prepare, mitigate and respond to disaster.

(c) Policy statements

- (i) The Government should set appropriate systems and adequate resources to handle disasters and priority disaster emergencies;**
- (ii) Financial and material resources set aside by stakeholders, for the purpose of disaster management programmes shall be disclosed to the Government for co-ordination purposes;**
- (iii) The Government should establish National Disaster Management Basket Fund in which different stakeholders will be allowed to contribute to the fund.**

2.1.7 Cross Cutting Policy Issues

Disasters often transcend beyond sector and national boundaries. Similarly the scope of it's management involves a number of activities for which no single agency can be solely responsible. Managing disasters in a country requires multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary interventions in terms of policies linkages, programs, plans, and strategies. Successful implementation of this policy demands consultation and harmonization of different pieces of legislations that govern the functioning of various sectors. Some of the cross cutting issues, that need to be closely consulted, are:

2.1.7.1 Special Groups

(a) Issue:

When a disaster strikes, it is mainly women, children, disabled, elderly and confined persons who bear the brunt of the tragedy. Under a disaster situation this groups are more vulnerable and disadvantaged due to their family roles and confinement from easy movement. In instances of displacement women and children are often subjected to human rights violations. Practice has shown that there is no analysis to this crucial dimension when handling disasters.

(b) Objective:

All stakeholders in disaster management should take into account the implications of special group dimension in their endeavour to handle disasters.

(c) Policy statements

- (i) Government and all stakeholders should take into cognisance requirement for special groups in their disaster management activities.
- (ii) Special attention should be given to special groups at all levels in disaster management.

2.1.7.2 Regional Cooperation.

(a) Issue:

Virtually no part of the world is immune to disasters. Their nature, characteristics and consequences transcend beyond national boundaries. Since countries have limited capacity to deal with disasters, sustainable solutions could be cost effective if tackled internationally through regional collaboration frameworks. Tanzania is a member of East African Community (EAC), Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), African Union (AU) and United Nations (UN). In each of these bodies there is a strong emphasis for member states to put in place workable arrangements for disaster management.

The problem faced with these regional collaborative bodies is inadequate funding and marginalisation of disaster management activities.

(b) Objective:

The United Republic of Tanzania to take part in different forums majoring in disaster management with workable arrangements and fully cooperate with regional bodies in this area.

(c) Policy statement

The Government should ratify and implement the international conventions on disaster reduction and other conventions of relevance to address trans-boundary disaster problems.

2.1.7.3 Warning System

(a) Issue:

Effective disaster manageability depends on the level of development of warning systems. The severity of disaster consequences depends on the interplay between the warnings issued and the degree of the public

response to the warning. Warning systems need to be known, developed and tested continuously for the purpose of making them effective. Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA), Seismology Unit under the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, Famine Early Warning System (FEWS), Plant Protection and Food Security under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security are mandated with the obligation of early warning. The efficiency of these units is inadequate as they lack equipment, personnel and funds. Similarly traditional prediction mechanisms have not been developed to provide reliable information. In general there is no comprehensive warning system in the country.

(b) Objective

Warning systems for all disasters to be developed and strengthened so as to ensure timely dissemination of information.

(c) Policy statements

- (i) Ministries responsible for early warning units should invest adequately in strengthening the units by equipping them appropriately to be able to provide accurate and timely warning information in the country.
- (ii) Government should ensure that traditional early warning systems are reviewed, developed and improved to enable accurate prediction and interpretation of warning information for appropriate action.
- (iii) Government should establish signals for each hazard and make them known to users. Similarly accord community access and utilization of early warning information.

2.1.7.4 Relief to Disaster Victims

(a) Issue:

Experience shows that in dealing with relief services there are no clear arrangements for providing relief to disaster victims. Critical issues such as required relief service, when to provide, to whom, and the extent are often not resolved and tend to be politicised.

(b) Objective

Government to establish parameters and regulations for providing relief services and make them clear to all interested parties.

(c) Policy Statement

Government should establish clear guidelines for relief provision to guide both beneficiaries and donors in terms of period for relief intervention, eligibility, types and quality as a way of minimising duplication of efforts and unduly grievances.

2.1.7.5 Environmental Conservation:

(a) Issue:

Disasters destruct the environment. Apart from that, environmental degradation causes disasters. There are no collective measures taken by the community to prevent environmental degradation so as to minimise disasters. Measures to protect the environment after disaster events are lacking.

(b) Objective:

To have a clear understanding and measures on environmental conservations to all interested parties including the community.

(c) Policy Statement:

- (i) Government to establish regulations for protecting the environment from disasters;
- (ii) The Government should take environmental impact assessment after disasters strike;
- (iii) Projects undertaken should consider environmental impact assessment;
- (iv) The Government and other stakeholders should create awareness on environmental conservation.

3.0 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT

3.1 OVERALL FRAME WORK

Disaster effects are numerous and long lasting. Its handling requires multi-sectoral approach as substantial amount of responses are needed beyond the ability of one organisation. To avoid duplication, it is important to have elaborate structures and assignments to different actors at all levels. This policy is assigning substantive structures from national to community levels aimed at increased disaster management excellence. The emphasis shall be to establish and strengthen those structures through human resource development, capitalisation and coordination.

3.1.1 Committees

There shall be disaster management committees from regional to the district level which will generally coordinate, guide, direct, approve and control disaster management activities at their respective levels. They shall be called Regional Disaster Management Committee (REDMAC) and District Disaster Management Committee (DIDMAC) respectively. (See Annex 1 and 2)

3.1.2. Disaster Management Commission

Disaster Relief Coordination Department (DRCD) as provided by Disaster Relief Coordination Act No. 9 of 1990 in the Prime Minister's Office should be reviewed and a Disaster Management Commission is established instead. The Commission will be the principal functional body for disaster management at national level responsible for overall implementation of the policy, coordination of programmes, operations and plans in the country. It will also coordinate national and international collaborations. (See annex 2).

3.1.3 Leading Agencies

Leading and supporting agencies shall be identified for each disaster as critical component of the disaster management. They will be required to harmonize pieces of legislation and develop Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) related to sector specific disasters. The National Operational Guidelines (NOG) shall describe each agency obligations and responsibilities.

3.1.4 Technical Committees

Technical Committees (TC) will be under respective sectors and shall be responsible for providing technical expertise to a sector specific disaster.

3.1.5 Disaster Management Units

There shall be a disaster management unit or desk officer in each stakeholders' office to facilitate monitoring and follow up of disaster management issues.

3.1.6 Disaster Response Teams

There shall be disaster response teams established at all levels to counter react to disaster and emergencies.

3.1.7 Community Level

At Community Levels that is, the ward and villages where disasters occur and response takes place, Disaster Management Committees will be formed and become the "front-line" structure of disaster management. A key feature of this structure (from national to community level) is to ensure effective response for livelihood saving.

3.2 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

The Government shall have at its immediate disposal every citizen, institution, the private sector, Non-Governmental Organisation and donor agencies as potential resource during emergency situation. Key institutions and their responsibilities shall be:

3.2.1 The Armed Forces

The Armed Forces have specific advantages. They are mobile, organized have all expertise and are capable to operate independently with their own logistics. They shall complement civil efforts during emergency situations as shall be requested by field commander. They shall perform complimentary roles where the civil machinery fails, before requesting assistance from outside the country.

3.2.2 Private Sector Participation

The Private Sector is endowed with expertise, equipment and funds to supplement Government efforts. Similarly they shall be responsible for safety of their plant operations and shall be bound to take appropriate precautionary and remedial measures in the event of any emergency. However, the private sector in its endeavours, is largely motivated by profit and the challenge here to disaster management activities especially on emergency response is how to compromise the commercialized services, which used to be accessed freely during operations prior liberalization such as health and water services. As such the Government shall have to put modalities for accessing the privately managed or owned resources for disaster management activities through a memorandum of understanding.

3.2.3 Fire and Rescue Department

The Fire and Rescue Department has technical know how on fire hazards and coordinates all fire related issues. They shall ensure quality and optimum utilization of fire agents both in urban and the countryside. The Department shall be required to harmonise existing laws to provide for private sector operation in this field. It will also supervise adherence to fire protection regulations by all.

3.2.4 Police Forces

The Police Forces have specific roles in mitigation, preparedness and response in the areas of security, search and rescue, evacuation, crowd management, fire fighting, emergency medical support, communication and causality bureau services. They shall have to conduct relevant training and exercises to keep abreast with the new techniques under this field.

3.2.5 Non-Governmental Organizations

Non-Governmental Organizations have ability to mobilise additional resources, which are useful in supplementing government efforts during emergencies. They have an advantage of being effective at community levels. Therefore, they shall be engaged in promoting public awareness, training, provide assistance and fund self-help activities.

3.2.6 International Agencies

United Nations Organizations and International Agencies are crucial in disaster management because they provide financial, equipment and technical support. Cooperation shall be strengthened to enhance more resources and expertise requirements for disaster management activities.

3.2.7 The Media

The Media has a unique and vital supporting role to play for successful disaster operations. The capacity to properly communicate and inform all stakeholders is crucial in disaster situation coverage. They should enhance public awareness for warning and resources mobilization to support emergency situation.

All departments and media training institutes shall have to mainstream disaster issues in their curriculum and routine activities. The media is called upon to be more responsible for disaster incident reporting because disaster reports are sensitive and require extra care beyond call of duty when reporting.

3.2.8 Local Community and Individual Families

Communities and individuals have a role of using their own capacities to safeguard their lives and property against disasters. Their actions shall form an integral part in disaster reduction initiatives. This policy aims to reinforce community capacity to withstand disaster threats through incorporating in the plans their aspiration, perceptions, wishes, needs and coping mechanisms.

3.3 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The successful implementation of this policy requires strong support of law, regulations, guidelines, community participation and adequate finance. The existing Disaster Relief Coordination Act No.9 of 1990 requires amendments to comply with this policy. Similarly other pieces of legislation in different Government Departments that deal with some aspects of disaster management shall be reviewed to augment the same. Disaster management legislation shall provide for mechanisms to reduce vulnerability, prevent likely disasters and enhance the country's capacity to contain or minimize the disaster impact and effects. The legal framework shall also provide for financial arrangements, penalties, incentives and popular participation in the development of disaster management plans. A covert on fostering regional cooperation through agreements, conventions and treaties on disaster management shall form part of the legislation.

3.4 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The overall responsibility for monitoring and evaluation at the national level lies within the Disaster Management Commission working in close collaboration with the key sectoral ministries. At regional level, the Regional Secretariat will be responsible for overall monitoring and evaluation. The Local Authorities

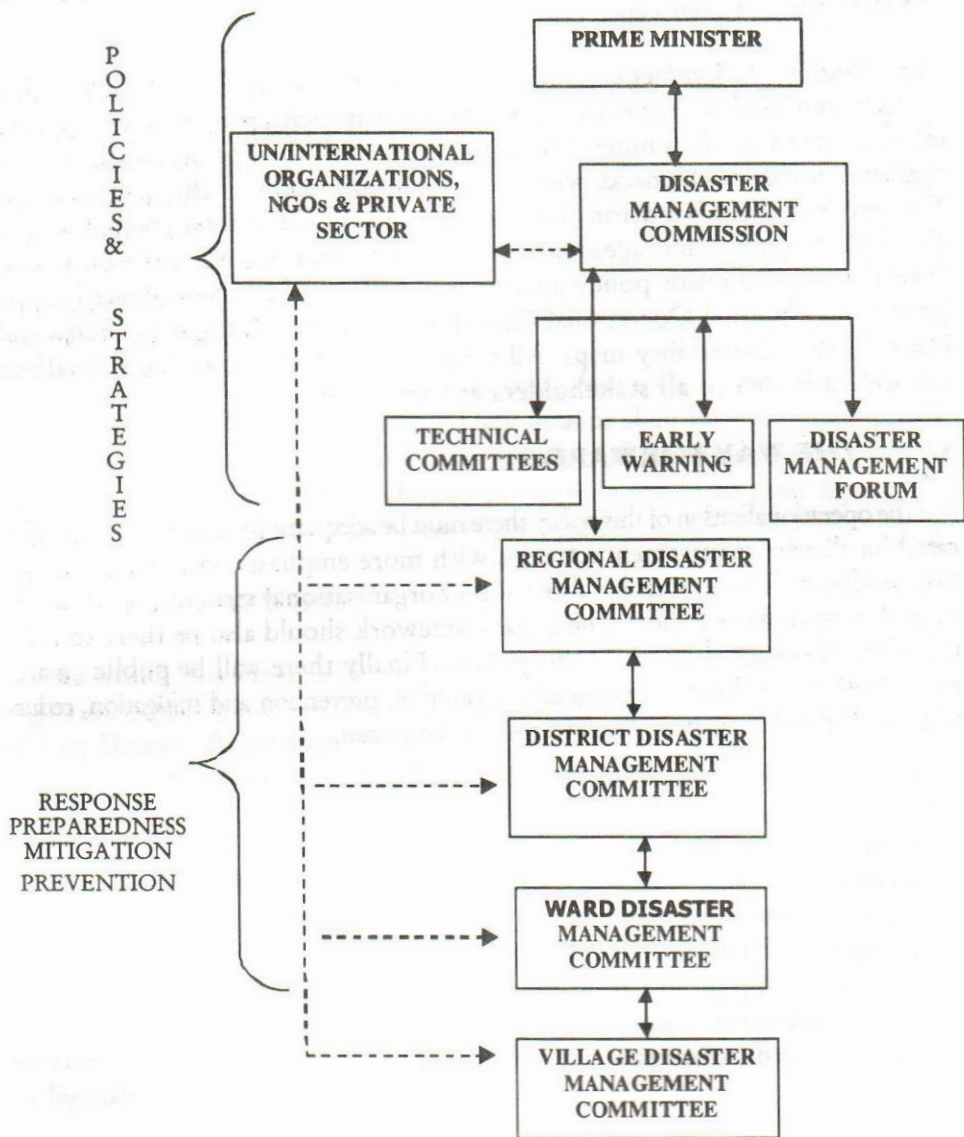
will be responsible for monitoring and evaluation at their level. Other key stakeholders (International/UN Agencies, Religious organizations, NGO's, CBO's, Business Community etc.) play key roles in the implementation of various disaster management activities and thus they will collaborate in monitoring and evaluation at their capacities.

The Disaster Management Commission as a coordinating body will collect compile and analyse information on the implementation of various disaster management programmes. This information will then be processed so as to compare various benchmarks with actual implementation of the programmes. The processed information will be published in a document, which will be discussed at disaster management forum. This monitoring and evaluation therefore will be major policy instruments. Other policy instruments include legislation, National Operational Guidelines, Disaster Management Plans and Hazard and Vulnerability maps. All these documents be completed, finalised and disseminated to all stakeholders at various levels.

3.5 THE WAY FORWARD:

For the operationalisation of this policy there must be adequate financial resources allocated for disaster management activities with more emphasis on prevention and preparedness. There must be also a sound organisational structure at all levels to deal with disaster issues. The Legal framework should also be there to reinforce the operationalisation of this policy. Finally there will be public awareness creation on disaster management mainly on prevention and mitigation, reduction of vulnerability and preparedness for response.

PROPOSED DISASTER MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

1.0 DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

1.1 GENERAL ROLE

The General Role of the Disaster Management Commission shall be the national coordinating body for the implementation of cross-sector disaster management programs as well as oversee the implementation of the policy and strategies at all levels.

1.2 SPECIFIC ROLES

Specific roles of the Commission will be as follows:

- (i) Coordinate all disaster management issues in the country;
- (ii) Formulate advocacy, capacity building at all levels (national, regional, district, ward and village);
- (iii) Ensure integration of sound disaster management into sectoral development plans/programs and other administrative levels;
- (iv) Include information management systems into public awareness programs on disaster management within communities;
- (v) Identify and map all hazards in the country and conduct risk and vulnerability analysis on a regular and continuing basis;
- (vi) Ensure the incremental establishment of disaster management committees at the regional, district, ward and village level;
- (vii) Ensure that appropriate regulations are established to develop disaster management volunteer teams;
- (viii) Act as a repository for archival and current disaster management information and where appropriate disseminate on regular basis information to other stakeholders through newsletters, memos, conferences and other media as may be appropriate;
- (ix) Perform any other functions as may be required.

2.1 Regional Disaster Management Committee (REDMAC)

The Regional Secretariat, District Commissioners and Local Authority Directors, will form Regional Disaster Management Committee (REDMAC) chaired by the Regional Commissioner (RC). Other members to be invited by the Chairperson will include Civic Organizations (NGOs, CBOs), representative for business community, leaders of religious organizations, and prominent persons in the region.

REDMAC will be the pivotal point for the implementation of disaster management resources in the region. Each Regional Committee will be a channel for information and resources and be a link between national objectives and district priorities. The regional authority will appoint one Desk Officer preferable Planning Officer or create a Unit to be responsible for coordination of disaster management activities in the Region

2.2 ROLES OF THE REDMAC

As the lead agency in the region, the Regional Disaster Management Committee will be responsible for :

- (i) To continuously monitor the hazards, risks, and disaster threats and the conditions of vulnerable populations within the region;
- (ii) Conduct vulnerability analyses on emerging disaster prone areas and prepare recommendations on reducing their vulnerability;
- (iii) Identify training needs and conduct education, training and public awareness;
- (iv) Mobilize and coordinate all interventions from other Agencies;
- (v) Ensure that compatible disaster management is fully reflected in regional and national priorities and guidelines;
- (vi) Support implementation of disaster management programs agreed for the region;
- (vii) Mobilize needed financial and material resources for disaster management.

3.0 DISTRICT STRUCTURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

3.1 District Disaster Management Committee (DIDMAC)

The District Councils are responsible for initiating, implementing, monitoring and evaluating District Development Programs. The District Management Team (DMT) will be the District Disaster Management Committee (DIDMAC) under the Chair of the District Commissioner (DC) and the District Executive Director (DED) as Secretary. Additional members will be drawn from Civic Organizations (NGOs, CBOs) representative of the business community, leaders of religious organizations, and prominent persons in the district.

3.2 ROLES OF DIDMAC

The DIDMAC will be responsible for:

- (i) Mainstreaming disaster management issues in the district plans;
- (ii) Continuously monitor the hazards, risks, and disaster threats and the conditions of vulnerable population within the district;
- (iii) Conducting surveys on emerging disaster prone areas and prepare recommendations on reducing their vulnerability;
- (iv) Identifying and mapping of all hazards in the district and conduct risk and vulnerability analysis;
- (v) Identifying training needs and conduct education, training and public awareness programs;
- (vi) Mobilization of needed financial and material resources for disaster management;
- (vii) In the event of a disaster/emergency, the DIDMAC in the affected District will take operational control of the situation to ensure support is delivered promptly to the affected communities;
- (viii) Establishing the response team and civil protection system for disaster

4.0 COMMUNITY LEVEL.

4.1 Ward and Village Structures and their Responsibilities:

Institutions at this level are the frontline of disaster management, where disaster activities are actually implemented. Disaster Management Committees should be established at the Ward and

Village levels. Districts will ensure establishment of appropriate structures both for disaster preparedness and civil protection at these levels.

4.1.1 Ward Disaster Management Committee (WADMAC)

Village Chairpersons and Executive Officers (VEO) will be the members of the WADMAC. The elected councilor will be the chairperson and the Ward Executive Officer (WEO) will be the Secretary of the committee. Other councilors in that ward will be members. Members also will include extension workers, religions leaders, NGOs CBOs and Traditional leaders in that Ward.

4.1.2 Village Disaster Management Committee (VIDMAC)

The Village Chairperson will chair the Committee at this level and hamlet Chairperson will be members. The Village Executive officer (VEO) will be the secretary of the Committee. Other members include NGOs, CBOs religions leaders, and traditional leaders.

4.1.3 Roles of WADMAC and VIDMAC.

Under their leaders the Committees at these levels will be responsible for:

Preparation of plans and procedures for disaster management programs in their respective locations.

Taking operational control in the event of a disaster or emergency so as to ensure that support is provided to the affected households.

Establishing a fund for disaster management at village level.

Mobilization of needed financial and material resources for disaster management.

Identifying and mapping of all hazards in their respective location and conduct risk and vulnerability analysis.

Establishment of civic groups for disaster reduction and operations.

5.0 THE HOUSEHOLD'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Households are responsible for taking measures, within their own capacities, to protect their own lives and property. The primary targets for informal and formal training, public awareness sensitization programs should be centered to the individual households. The concept of mitigation, prevention and the initial response required by a Community take place at this level.

5.1 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF HOUSEHOLDS

- (i) Effectively challenge the initial impact of a disaster until support arrives from other levels;
- (ii) Provide information on local hazards to the higher authorities for disaster management so that such information can be incorporated into the programs of other levels;
- (iii) Share knowledge on how they can cope with hazards for the purpose of reinforcing experiences for effective protection to the households against the hazards they face;
- (iv) Participate in organized disaster simulation exercises, education, and training as part of building their capacity.

6.0 THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT FORUM

The Disaster Management forum will be established for the purpose of sharing information and exchange experiences. The forum will be a source of information for the Commission, community and other stakeholders. The Commission shall be responsible for convening the forum at least once every year. Participants will be invited from all stakeholders including Private Sector

7.0 EARLY WARNING

Early warning is the responsibility of Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA), the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and Ministry of Health. TMA serves as a final early warning and monitoring system against hazardous weather. Its activities are to forecast weather, monitor, analyze, interpret and process all weather related data. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security monitor's trends in food production, forecasts future trends and impending food shortages in specific locations.

Ministry of Health is responsible for providing early warning on epidemics.

8.0 THE ROLE OF NGOS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS.

8.1 The NGOs

NGOs are important partners in disaster management activities. NGOs are often able to respond flexibly and rapidly to urgent needs of disasters. In order to enhance a closer link between them and the disaster management authorities; Association of Non-Governmental Organizations being an umbrella body will:

- (i) Encourage its members to participate in disaster management activities aimed at reducing vulnerability to the community and individual. In specific terms NGO's will be expected to participate in training, public education, damage assessment, rehabilitation and construction activities in disaster stricken areas.
- (ii) It is understood that NGOs and other actors will comply fully with international standards of relief and human rights. (Sphere standard.)

8.2 MEDIA

The press, radio and television have an important role to play in the National Disaster Management activities. Their specific areas of intervention will include:

- (i) Documentation, reporting, sensitization and incident coverage on disaster management activities as a whole and in assisting public awareness programs;
- (ii) Mainstream disaster issues in their plans and budget;
- (iii) Participate in disaster management forum in order to ensure media's effective contribution.

8.3 UN AGENCIES

The UN and International Development Agencies are crucial in disaster management programs. Specifically these agencies will:

- (i) Participate in the National Disaster Management Forum for the purpose of information and sharing experience;
- (ii) Participate in Technical Committees dealing with specific disasters;

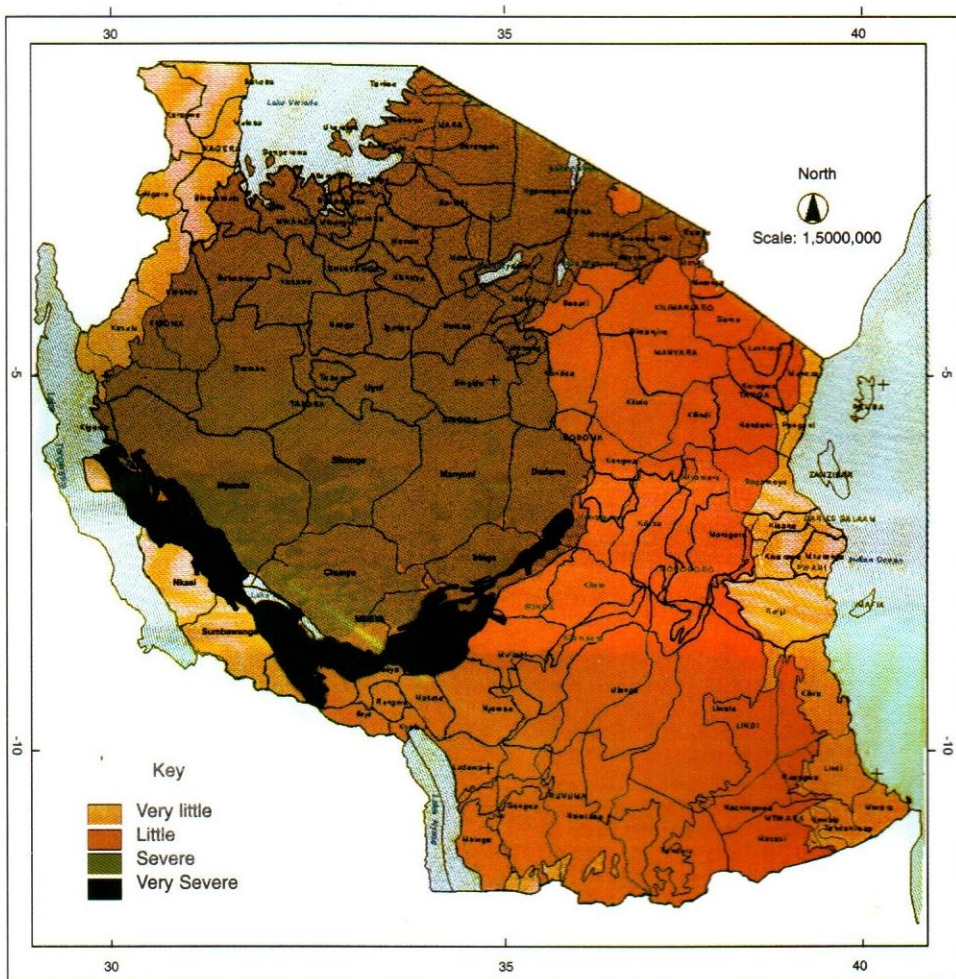
- (iii) Provide financial and technical support for disaster management in the country.

8.4 TANZANIA RED CROSS SOCIETY

The Tanzania Red Cross Society is mandated by an Act of Parliament to play specific voluntary humanitarian roles in disasters and emergencies as an auxiliary to public authorities. It has International and national-wide networks, which provide valuable source of skilled manpower and funding.

The Society shall be engaged in sensitizing and mobilization of the community as a first line in disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response. Also will be engaged to provide services in other key areas of competences.

EPIDEMICS



FLOODS

