

Dedicated to the Birth of His Royal Highness The Gyalsey!

Call 112 for Emergency Medical Response!

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Printed @ P.T. Printing & Publishing House



HEALTH EMERGENCY AND DISASTER CONTINGENCY PLAN

(Plan for Health Sector Disaster Preparedness and Response in Bhutan)



First Edition June, 2016

Emergency Medical Services Division
Department of Medical Services
Ministry of Health
Royal Government of Bhutan
Thimphu



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FOREWORD

The Ministry of Health is responsible of delivering medical services at all times, especially "during and after the occurrence of natural and man-made disasters and emergencies." To ensure this, it is critical that the ministry is prepared at all times to respond to such emergencies and disasters. This requires the Ministry of Health, the health facilities and all concerned

stakeholders to work systematically and make certain that the health sector is prepared in terms of infrastructure, emergency plans and procedures, and that the health staff are trained and equipped to provide emergency medical response during an crisis.

This Health Emergency and Disaster Contingency Plan is developed as per the mandates enshrined in the National Disaster Management Act, 2013. The main aim and objective of this plan is to enhance preparedness and response capacity for emergency and disaster in the health sector. The plan highlights some of the common hazards in Bhutan, based on which the plan was conceived and developed. This document covers various emergency preparedness subjects such as institutional mechanism, roles and responsibilities, communication and key actions crucial for emergency and disaster management.

The plan delineates health emergency preparedness and response action at different levels of health institutions, and responsibilities in terms of who, what resources and when. Coordination is a key to successful management of emergencies and disasters, which call for a coordinated response between curative and preventive health services, as well as food supply, water and sanitation. The Ministry of Health established the Emergency Medical Service Programme and later upgraded to Division level under the Department of Medical Services to act as the nodal body to direct, coordinate and manage medical responses during disasters and health emergencies.

We are hopeful that this plan will serve as a guiding document for

programs in the ministry, health sectors of the districts, hospitals, basic health units, and communities for disasters and emergencies. I would like to, personally, urge the ministry colleagues, districts and hospitals to take immediate steps to implement the preparedness measure outline in this plan as we are uncertain when an emergency may occur.

Moreover, since simulation exercise is the only way to keep ourselves prepared for emergency and disaster in the absence of responding to events, I would like to urge districts and hospitals to conduct simulation exercises at least two times in a year. The Ministry of Health looks forward to the continued cooperation and support from all the stakeholders in implementing the interventions under this plan.

(Lyonpo Tandin Wangchuk)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Ministry would like to acknowledge health officials from districts, BHUs and villages, community leaders, and officials from various international organizations for their contribution in developing this document. The ministry also offers its sincere thanks to the World Health Organization for providing financial and technical support. In particular, the Ministry would like to acknowledge the following officials for their contribution:

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The ministry also offers its sincere thanks to all the members of the high level committee, without whose comments and support, this document would not have been possible.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ministry of Health through its Emergency Medical Service Division aims to develop safer communities that suffer fewer deaths, physical injuries and psycho-social trauma as a result of disasters and health emergencies. To achieve this, health system must be capable of providing a coordinated response during disasters/emergencies and deliver effective mitigation and preparedness programs before an impact. The health sector has a vested interest and a key role in this process since safer communities are healthier and the health of the population is an important contributing factor to individual and community safety.

The Health System can be put under considerable strain due to disaster and emergency situations that can result in high mortality and morbidity. The resulting health problems might be related to food and nutrition, water and sanitation, mental health, climatic exposure and shelter, communicable diseases, health infrastructure and population displacement.

Bhutan has confronted several disasters in the past. Whether it is manmade disasters or natural disasters, the Royal Government of Bhutan has taken measures to provide relief and response in a coordinated manner. Now that the world is facing new challenges due to the emergence of infectious diseases like avian influenza, SARS, MERS-CoV, and most recently the Zika virus, the re-emergence of previously easily contained diseases like Ebola and TB, and the health effects of chemical, radio nuclear and food safety events. Thus the health emergency contingency plan needs to be a comprehensive plan that will address all hazards.

It is the outcome of the concerted efforts of stakeholders from various international and national organizations drafted since 2011 with the funding and technical support from both RGoB and WHO. This is also part of the fulfillment of the mandates enshrined in the Disaster Management Act of Bhutan 2013.

This document has been developed adopting a community based approach through consultative process. It highlights some of the

common natural hazards and health emergencies in Bhutan, upon which the plan was conceived and developed. It contains fundamental public health preparedness and response activities and responsibilities in terms of what resources when, who, and from where.

This document will serve as the basis for preparedness and response activities for emergencies and disasters in the health sector and therefore will be reviewed and updated every 3 years or as and when required. This is done to make the emergency management more practical and efficient in the coming years.

ACRONYMS

AMP Advance Medical Post
ARI Acute Respiratory Infection

AIDS Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

BHU Basic Health Unit

BMAT Bhutan Medical Assistance Team

CBRP Community Based Rehabilitation Program

CDD Communicable Disease Division

CMO Chief Medical Officer

DHMS Department of Hydro Met Services

DHO District Health Officer

DMS Department of Medical Services
DoPH Department of Public Health

DoMSHI Department of Medical Supply and Health

Infrastructure

DDM Department of Disaster Management
DMAB Disaster Management Act of Bhutan
DoTM Department of Traditional Medical
EMSD Emergency Medical Service Division
EMT Emergency Medical Technician
ED/ER Emergency Department/Room

HA Health Assistant

HIMS Health Information and Management System

HHC Health Help Center

HEDCP Health Emergency and Disaster

Contingency Plan

HEMC Health Emergency Management Committee

HEOC Health Emergency Operating Center

ICU Intensive Care Unit

IEC Information Education Communication
IFRCRCS International Federation of Red Cross and

Red Crescent Societies

IMNCI Integrated Management of Neonate and

Childhood Illness

MCH Maternal and Child Health
MCI Mass Casualty Incidence
MCM Mass Casualty Management
MEC Medical Evacuation Center

MoH	Ministry of Health
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NCDD Non-Communicable Disease Division NDMA National Disaster Management Authority

NSB National Statistical Bureau
OPD Outpatient Department

PHED Public Health Engineering Division
PPE Personal Protective Equipment
RCDC Royal Center for Disease Control

RH Reproductive Health
RRT Rapid Response Team

SOP Standard Operating Procedure TAC Technical Advisory Committee for

Emergencies and Disasters

KGUMSB Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical

Science of Bhutan

UNICEF United Nations International Children's

Emergency Fund

UNDP United Nations Development Program

UNDRO United Nations Disaster Relief Organization

VHW Village Health Worker WHO World Health Organization

WFP World Food Program

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Bhutan is a mountainous country covering an area of 38,394 square kilometers situated between China and India. The difficult geographical terrain and mountainous ridges poses challenges for the health facilities to provide service for the population in the far-flung settlements. The settlements are scattered across the mountains characterized by few households in some rural areas to over a thousand households in urban areas. The population of Bhutan in 2014 was 745,153 with over 70% of its population living in the rural areas.

The risk of disaster is high in Bhutan as it lies in greater Himalayan range, which is one of the most seismically active zones especially zone IV and V. The fragile eco-system, geographical conditions and climate change, have resulted many disasters in the past, such as:

- a. Landslides closely linked with flooding situation.
- b. Flooding due to Glacial Lake Outbursts/natural dam formation and dam outburst
- c. Flash Flood
- d. Earthquake
- e. Fire in forest and human settlements.
- f. Windstorms/snowstorms and hailstorms
- g. Epidemic and Disease Outbreaks.

1.2 Disasters and Health Emergencies

Disasters happen when the forces of a hazard (an extreme event that disrupts the lives of people) exceed the ability of a community to cope on its own. Not all communities are at risk of every type of disaster, but every community is at risk of some particular disaster. The United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) defines a disaster as: "a serious disruption of the functioning of a society, causing widespread human, material, or environmental losses which exceed the ability of the affected society to cope using its own resources."

As per the Disaster Management Act of Bhutan (DMAB) 2013 (Chapter

9, Section 92-96), disaster is classified into three types based on geographical impact, coordination and management capacity as indicated in *table* 1:

Table 1: Classification of Disasters

Criteria	Type I Disaster	Type II Disaster	Type III Disaster
Geographical Impact	Affects a single Thromde or Gewog or any part thereof;	Affects a Dzongkhag or more than one Dzongkhag;	Affects the nation as a whole or in part; Other special circumstances warrant such classification
Overall Coordination and Management	Managed with available resources and is within the coping capacity of the Gewog concerned (Thromde or Gewog Disaster Management Committee)	Managed with available resources and is within the coping capacity of the Dzongkhag concerned (Dzongkhag Disaster Management Committee)	Severity and magnitude is so great that it is beyond available resources and the coping capacity of the Dzongkhag concerned (National Disaster Management Authority)
Health Sector Coordination	Health Assistant or Thromde Health officer.	Chief Medical Officer and Dzongkhag Health Officer	Technical Advisory Committee for Emergencey and Disaster at national level

A health emergency can be any sudden public health situation endangering the life or health of a significant number of people and demanding immediate action. As per WHO, public health emergency is "an occurrence or imminent threat of an illness or health condition, caused by bio terrorism, epidemic or pandemic disease, or (a) novel and highly fatal infectious agent or biological toxin, that poses a substantial risk of a significant number of human facilities or incidents or permanent or long-term disability (WHO, 2001). The main Cut Off indicators for health emergencies defined by WHO are described below:

Table 2: Health emergency indicators

Status	Indicators	Cut off value
	Daily crude mortality rate	>1/10,000pop
Health/Diseases	Daily under 5 mortality rate	>2/10,000 children under 5
	Nutrition Acute malnutrition in under 5	10% of under 5 years old
	Growth faltering rate in Under 5	30% of monitored children
Nutrition	Low birth weight	(<2.5 kg) 7% of live birth

1.3 Legal Framework

The Fifty-Eight World Health Assembly urged WHO to increase its role in risk reduction and emergency preparedness in the health sector. Subsequently WHO recommended every countries to develop national health emergency preparedness and response policies after the completion of Global Assessment of National Health Sector Emergency Preparedness and Response in 2008.

At the national level, the DMAB 2013 (Chapter 6, section 67 & 76) mandates agencies notified by NDMA to prepare, implement, review and update emergency contingency plan. The Chapter 10, section 111 of the Act also mandates Health Ministry to manage emergency medical services during disaster.

Further the National Health Policy 2012 enshrined the mandates of all health facilities to institute appropriate system of care to deal with emergencies, disasters, epidemics and outbreaks. National emergency preparedness and response plans shall be maintained and appropriate resources provided at all levels to respond rapidly and effectively to all health related emergencies of national and international concerns. Accordingly, the Ministry of Health has developed the Health Emergency and Disaster Contingency Plan (HEDCP).

1.4 Definition of Contingency Plan

A contingency plan is a plan that enables an organization to respond well to an emergency and its potential humanitarian impact when disaster occurs. It contains operational procedures for response, management of human and financial resources, coordination and communication procedures.

The HEDCP outlines the level of preparedness and the arrangements made and as well highlights process and system that needs to be in place in terms of Health Response in anticipation of a health emergency during disaster/crisis/disease outbreaks. This plan will serve as the guiding document for appropriate health and humanitarian interventions before, during and after health emergency or disasters.

1.5 Objectives of the Contingency Plan

The main objectives of the HEDCP are to ensure that the health sector's preparedness and response to emergencies is not only effective and timely but also coherent and well-coordinated. The processes and management structures outlined within this plan serve as the foundation for an all-hazards response framework, which will be supplement through a series of annexes providing guidance and information specific to a particular hazard or process. The specific objectives of the plan are as follows:

- a. Increase organizational readiness in the preparation for and disaster.
- b. Ensure timely and effective provision of health care services when health emergency and disaster occurs.
- c. Institutionalize emergency management at all levels of health facilities.

1.6 Strategies

- a. Conduct hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment
- b. Delineate job responsibilities at different level of health institutions
- c. Develop guidelines and SOPs for various levels
- d. Establish resource mobilization mechanism (HR, medical supplies, equipment and funds)
- e. Establish networking, information sharing and communication within and outside MoH
- f. Establish effective early warning and surveillance system related to health emergency

- g. Develop effective coordination mechanism at all levels of health facilities
- h. Establish psychosocial support and rehabilitation process
- i. Establish internal coordination mechanism for disease of national and international concern

CHAPTER 2: HAZARDS AND HEALTH IMPACT

2.1 Hazard Profiles

Bhutan is a mountainous country and highly prone to a range of hazards, including glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), flash floods, riverine floods, landslides, landslide dam outburst floods, cloudbursts, windstorms, and river erosion. It ranks fourth highest in South Asia in terms of relative exposure to flood risks, with 1.7 percent of the total population at risk. With climate change, the frequency and intensity of extreme events are expected to increase. The country is also located in the seismic zone V of high earthquake occurrence. It ranks fourth highest in the South Asia region in terms of relative exposure to flood risks, at 1.7 percent of the total population at risk.

Between 1994 and 2016, some 87,000 people were affected and over 380 deaths occurred due to natural disasters in Bhutan— mostly arising from the impacts of floods, windstorms, earthquakes, and GLOFs. Floods and storms account for about 95 percent of total deaths related to natural disasters; the remaining 5 percent resulting from earthquakes.

Table 3: Number of deaths and individuals affected by natural disasters 1994-2016

Table 3: Number of deaths and individuals affected by natural disasters 1994-2016

Number of deaths and individuals affected by natural disasters 1994-2011				
Disasters	Deaths	Affected		
Flood	222	1600		
Storm	29	65000		
Earthquake	12	20028		
Total	304	87369		

Source: EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster database

a. Earthquakes

The risk of earthquakes is high in Bhutan as it lies in one of the most seismically active zones. The recent major earthquake (September, 2011) measuring 6.8 in Richter scale claimed one life, injured 14 people, damaged nearly 7,965 houses, 50 health facilities and other important offices and functionaries across 6 Dzongkhags.

b. Glacier lakes

Out of 2674 glacier lakes, 25 have been identified as potentially dangerous. These glacial lakeoutburst (GLOFs) pose serious risk to the human settlement in the reverine areas. The threat of GLOFs is increasing as temperature increases from global warming and cause rapid and unprecedented rate in the retreat of glaciers. The major GLOFs and flash floods that occurred along Punatshangchu in October 1994 caused 22 casualties.

c. Flash flood

In 2004, major flash floods occurred due to heavy precipitation affecting 6 eastern Dzongkhags. It claimed 9 lives and damaged 1,437 households. In May 2009 Cyclone Aila caused incessant rainfall throughout the country resulting in flash floods and 13 lives were lost that year.

d. Fire

Fire is another major hazard for Bhutan affecting both the human settlements and forest. It is mainlycaused by electric short-circuit, fuel woods used for cooking, heating, and negligence of people in particular by smokers, campers, trekker. The common use of woods as construction materials mainly in rural areas is also risk for fire. In May 2014, forest fire in Bartsam and Bidung under Tashigang Dzongkhag razed down 22 houses, damaged 4 rural water supply schemes, 7 irrigation channels and 3844 fruits trees beside affecting other plants and animal species. Also, fire in Chamkhar (2010) razed down 58 structures and affected 64 families. 2 lives lost and 1 seriously injured.

e. Road Traffic Accidents

Road Traffic Accident is common occurrence in Bhutan due to winding roads, speeding, reckless driving and driving under intoxication are

some of the risk for accidents. In 2010, public transport accident at Lamperi claimed 9 lives and injured 26 people.

f. Disease Outbreaks

The disease outbreak affects large number of people demanding immediate health actions resulting in huge government losses in terms of drugs and equipment. This is further worsened by porous borders in the south, which gives way to unchecked movement of people between the borders. In 2012, the first Chikungunya fever was detected in Samtse Hospital and over the period of 33 weeks, 64 cases of chikungunya were detected in Samtse, Gomtu, Sipsu and Phuentsholing areas. Weak disease surveillance and porous border were attributed to various disease outbreak and importation of new infectious diseases.

g. Snowstorms, hailstorms, windstorms and draughts

Snowstorms, hailstorms, windstorms and droughts in Bhutan also cause loss of lives, animals, food crops and properties. The wind Storm of May 2014 in Samtse blew away roofs of many households and Samtse hospital.

h. Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Weapons (CBRNs) Disaster

Disaster due to CBRN is one such high priority subject, as it can be a highly traumatic event. At times, it can result in irreparable damage to the environment; both biotic and abiotic, and also cause fatality to a large number of population. Biological hazards includes infectious, zoonosis and food events which constitute major risk to our populations.

i. Bomb Blast

In 2013, eight soldiers were killed instantly in the bomb explosion in Haa. About a dozen more soldiers were injured. Some of the seriously injured persons were flown to Thimphu in helicopters. The dead and injured were members of the bomb disposal squad of the Royal Bhutan Army.

2.2 Risk Analysis from hazards

A risk profile identifies and ranks risks according to seriousness of hazards. Risk analysis identify the locations that are particularly vulnerable, and their likelihood and impact. The following tables illustrate common public health risks caused by different hazards including epidemics:

Table 4: Risk analysis of disasters from Public Health Perspectives

Natural/ man- made Disasters	Specific Location	Likelihood	Impact	Public Health Risk
Earthquakes	Whole Country	Moderate	High	Deaths and Injuries Increased risk for vulnerable groups* Displaced people Unavailability of clean water and proper sanitation Malnutrition Disruption of essential services Psycho-social problems/mental disturbances Environmental and Public Health (PH) issues in shelters Health infrastructure damage Affected health workers and family Disease outbreaks Sexual violence and STIs
Landslides	Whole Country	Infrequent	Medium	Deaths and Injuries Increased risk for vulnerable groups Malnutrition Unavailability of clean water and proper sanitation Disruption of essential services Inaccessibility of PH facilities Psycho-social problems /mental disturbances Environmental and PH issues in shelters Health infrastructure damage Disease outbreaks Displacement
Floods	Whole Country	Likely	Low/Medium	Deaths and Injuries from drowning Malnutrition Unavailability of clean water and proper sanitation Psycho-social problems /mental disturbances Inaccessibility of public health facilities Environmental PH issues in shelters Health infrastructure damage Disease outbreaks Displacement
Fire	Whole Country	Moderate	Medium	Deaths and Injuries Disabilities Psycho-social problems /mental disturbances
Road Traffic Accidents	Whole Country	Frequent	Medium	Deaths and Injuries Disabilities Psycho-social problems /mental disturbances

Table 5: Risk Analysis of Communicable diseases:

Communicable Disease Risk	Specific Location/Setting	Likelihood	Impact	Public Health Risk
Seasonal influenza	Whole country, outbreaks in institutions and schools	Likely	Low/Medium	
Pandemic influenza	Whole country, outbreaks in institutions and schools	Infrequent	High/Medium	
Chikungunya	Southern region (with case movement to other areas)	Moderate	Low/Medium	
Dengue	Southern region (with case movement to other areas)	Likely	Medium	
Malaria	Southern region (with case movement to other areas)	Likely	Medium	
Meningitis	Whole country, Institutions and schools	Infrequent	High	
Increasing burden of HIV/AIDS	Whole country	Moderate	High	
Chicken pox	Whole country, outbreaks in institutions and schools	Moderate	Low	Morbidity
Mumps	Whole country, outbreaks in institutions and schools	Likely	Low	Disability and Death Socio economic
Measles	Whole country, outbreaks in institutions and schools	Moderate	Medium	• Psycho-social
Cholera	Risk of imported cases	Infrequent	Medium	problems /mental disturbances
Typhoid	Central area, not verified, lack of diagnostic capacity	Moderate	Medium	disturbances
Kala-azer/ Leishmaniosis	Cases in Eastern region but vector in whole country	Infrequent	Medium	
Hepatitis B	Whole country	Moderate	Medium/High	
MERS	Current risk of imported cases	Infrequent	High	
Rota viral diarrhoea	Whole country	Moderate	Medium	
MDR TB	Bhutan and SEA	Moderate	High	
Hepatitis C	Very few cases reported	Infrequent	High	
Ebola	Risk of imported cases during ongoing outbreaks	Infrequent	High	
Community acquired pneumonia	Whole country	Moderate	Medium/High	
Healthcare acquired infections	Whole country	Moderate	Medium/High	
AMR infections	Whole country	Moderate	High	
Hand, Foot and Mouth	Whole country, schools	Infrequent	Low	

Table 6: Risk Analysis of Zoonotic diseases:

Zoonotic Disease	Specific	Likelihood	Impact	Public Health Risk
Risk	Location/Setting			
Rabies	Southern Region	Moderate- Likely in South	High	
Anthrax	Whole country, mainly in villages	Infrequent	Low/Medium	
Leptospirosis	Whole country	Infrequent	Low/Medium]
Scrub typhus	Whole country, seasonal March- October	Moderate	Medium	
CCHF- Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever	Southern region, risk to whole country	Infrequent	High	
Echinococcosis / Hydatidosis	Whole country	Moderate	Medium	Morbidity
Taeniasis	Whole country in meat handlers/ consumers/ Hunters	Likely	Medium	Disability and Death Socio economic
Brucellosis	Whole Country	Infrequent	Low	impacts
HPAI	Whole Country	Infrequent	High	
LPAI	Whole Country	Infrequent	High	
Swine Flu	Whole Country	Infrequent	Medium/High	
JE	Southern Region	Infrequent	Medium	
Bovine Tuberculosis	Whole country, no cases detected	Infrequent	Medium	
Q Fever	South East Asia, limited to animal handlers	Infrequent	Medium	
Toxoplasmosis	Whole country, pregnant women	Infrequent	Medium	

Table 7: Risk Analysis of food safety:

Food Safety Risk	Specific Location/Setting	Likelihood	Impact	Public Health Risk
Foodborne Illness	Whole country	Moderate	Medium	
Food adulteration	Whole country, particularly urban areas	Moderate	Medium	
Antibiotic/hormonal residue	Whole country	Moderate	Medium/High	Malnutrition
Aflatoxin poisoning	Whole country	Infrequent	High	Severe diarrhoea or
Pesticide/herbicide/or fertilizer contamination of food	Whole country	Likely (imported goods)	High	debilitating infections including meningitis
Salmonellosis	Whole country	Moderate	Medium	Acute poisoning or
Staphylococcus. aureus	Whole country	Moderate	Medium	long-term diseases, such as cancer
Listeria monocytogens	Whole country	Infrequent	Medium	long-lasting
Heavy metals	Whole country	Infrequent	High	disability and death
E. coli	Whole country	Moderate	Medium	
Contamination from unsafe handling of food	Whole country, institutions	Moderate	Medium/High	
Food Preservatives and additives (imported foods)	Whole country	Moderate (imported goods)	High	
C botulinum	Whole country	Infrequent	High	
Trichenella spiralis	Whole country	Moderate	Medium	
T solium & T saginata	Whole country	Moderate	Low/medium	
Alcohol	Whole country	Moderate/Likely	Medium/High	

Table 8: Risk Analysis of Chemical events:

Chemical Event Risk	Specific Location/Setting	Likelihood	Impact	Public Health Risk
Lead poisoning	Industrial areas, laboratories, imported products, foods	Infrequent	Medium	
Mercury poisoning	Health facilities, Laboratories Black smith, Industrial areas	Infrequent	Medium	
Gas poisoning	Mining areas, industrial areas	Infrequent	Medium/High	
Chlorine poisoning	Swimming pools, water treatment	Infrequent	Low/Medium	Stress and
Acid burns	Laboratories and workshops, industrial areas	Moderate	Low/Medium	anxietyDeaths and illness
Pesticide/herbicide/or fertilizer poisoning	Farmers and chemical industries	Moderate	Low/Medium	Societal and economic
Deliberate event	Whole country	Infrequent	High	costs
Industrial pollutants	Whole country	Moderate	Medium/High	 Environmental
Foreign industrial accidents	Border areas	Moderate	Medium/High	damage
Asbestos	Whole country, Through the packing materials and used in houses,	Infrequent	Low/Medium	
Arsenic	Whole country/region patient exposure	Infrequent	Low/Medium	
Cadmium	Pasakha Ferro alloy factory in Bhutan-likely chance	Infrequent	Low/Medium	
Ethilium bromide	Laboratories	Infrequent	Low/Medium	

Table 9: Risk Analysis of Radiological events:

Radiological Event Risk	Specific Location/Setting	Likelihood (Infrequent, Moderate, Likely)	Impact (High, Medium, Low)	Public Health Risk
Radiation injuries	Hospitals, airports, recycled materials	Infrequent	High	Lethal at
Bomb blast	Whole country (Foreign detonation, local effects)	Infrequent	High	high doses • Mutagenic
Diagnostic/Therapy radiation	Health facilities (accidental overdose)	Infrequent	High	Carcinogens
Radiation	Factories from Pasakha (Bhutan)	Infrequent	High	
Nuclear Power Plant Accident	Countries in Region, with local impact	Infrequent	High	

Courtesy of Table 5-9: CDD, DoPH, MoH

CHAPTER 3: PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSES

3.1 Preparedness

Recent events have demonstrated that no one is exempted from a disaster situation and people everywhere need to be prepared. Therefore, preparedness encompasses all those measures taken before a disaster and emergency events which are aimed at minimizing loss of life, disruption of critical services and damage when the disaster occurs.

Preparedness increases the community's ability to respond effectively to hazard impacts and to recover quickly from the long-term effects. It involves planning, training and education, resource management, and exercising. It builds better coordination and cooperation between agencies within the community.

Thus, preparedness is a protective process which enables governments, communities and individuals to respond rapidly to disaster situation and cope with them effectively. Preparedness includes following activities which are being implemented and are going to be implemented:

3.1.1 Health Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC)

HEOC is a central command, control and communication facility for the effective administration of emergency response and disaster management in any emergency situation. It will be managed and operated by Emergency Medical Services Division under the directives of Health Emergency Management Committee (HEMC) during the times of emergencies and disasters. HEOC will host necessary resources and data for effective coordination and response during emergencies. (See Chapter 4 of this Plan, and "Guideline & SOP for HEOC" for more details.)

3.1.2 Seismic Vulnerability Assessment of Hospitals and Health facilities

The hospitals and other health facilities in Bhutan faces high earthquake hazard combined with a geographic isolation that will make post-earthquake relief and medical supplies difficult. Thus it is important to assess the structural and non-structural earthquake vulnerability

of all the hospitals and health facilities. The assessment is intended to provide an overview of the hospital's seismic vulnerabilities, and to recommend actions to improve the hospital's ability to deliver medical care following a major earthquake.

WHO's Regional Office for Southeast Asia (SEARO), MoH, DDM and GeoHazards International (GHI) agreed that the hospitals will have an essential role following a damaging earthquake and that an assessment of the hospital's current level of earthquake safety and preparedness was necessary. So GHI performed an initial seismic vulnerability assessment of JDWNRH from May to July in 2012. Subsequently GHI evaluated Trashiyangtse District Hospital and Trashigang District Hospital from August to December 2013.

EMSD has finalized and printed the "Guideline on Vulnerability Assessment of Health Facilities" and it will be used to conduct seismic vulnerability assessment of remaining hospitals and other facilities. It will be done as per the availability of budget and technical support. This activity shall be considered as one of the main priorities for EMSD.

3.1.3 Emergency Medical Supplies Buffer Stores

At the moment 30% buffer stock is kept for essential drugs, 10% for vital drugs and 10% for essential consumables at Medical Stores Distribution Division, Phuentsholing for the use during emergencies. Further Ministry has identified 3 medical buffer stores in Paro, Gelephu and Monger considering the feasibility of transportation and suitable location.

3.1.4 Field Hospitals

Ministry of Health will have field hospitals in three regional referral hospitals in Thimphu, Gelephu and Mongar. Field hospitals will be used to substitute or complement medical systems in the aftermath of sudden-impact events that produce disasters for three distinct purposes:

a. Provide early emergency medical care (including Advanced Trauma Life Support-ATLS). This period lasts only up to 48 hours following the onset of an event.

- b. Provide follow-up care for trauma cases, emergencies, routine health care and routine emergencies (from day 3 to 15 days).
- c. Act as a temporary facility to substitute damaged installations, pending final repair or reconstruction (usually from the second month to two years or more).

The following are some essential requirements to ensure that it benefits the affected population:

- a. Be operational on site within 24 hours after the impact of disaster
- b. Be entirely self-sufficient
- c. Offer comparable or higher standards of medical care than were available in the affected country prior to the precipitating event
- d. Be familiar with the health situation and culture of the affected country (medical aid to other countries)

3.1.5 Emergency Medical and Trauma Centers

Emergency Medical and Trauma Center is a specialized and organized health facility distinguished by the immediate availability of health personnel, equipment and capabilities on a 24x7 basis to care for critically injured patients and other medical emergencies. Ten district hospitals will be established at the strategic locations as the Emergency Medical and Trauma centers to adequately respond to the obstetrical and surgical emergencies and trauma related injuries. These trauma centers are/will be ranked from Level I (comprehensive service) to Level III (limited-care) depending on the availability of services and specialists in a trauma center. List of these facilities are given in table below:

Table 10: List of Emergency Medical and Trauma Centers

Sl.	Name of Center	Bed	Region	Catchment Dzongkhags
No.		strength		
1	Dewathang hospital	40		Samdrup Jongkhar, Pemagatshel
				and lower part of Trashigang
2	Trashigang hospital	40	Eastern	Trashigang and Trashiyangtse
3	Riserboo hospital*	20		Southern Trashigang and
				Pemagatshel
4	Trongsa hospital	20		Trongsa and Bumthang
5	Yebilaptsa hospital	40	Central	Zhemgang Dzongkhag
6	Damphu hospital	40		Tsirang and Dagana
7	Wangdue hospital	40		Wangdue Phodrang, Punakha &
				Gasa
8	Phuentsholing	50	Western	Chhukha
	hospital			
9	Samtse hospital	40		Samtse
10	Gedu hospital	20		Chhukha

For more details on Emergency Medical and Trauma Centers, refer "Guideline for establishing Emergency Medical and Trauma Centers."

3.1.6 Hazard Monitoring and Early Warning Systems

This refers to systems and mechanisms for monitoring and anticipating hazard events and communicating early warnings to ensure rapid response actions by response organizations and at-risk communities.

a. Royal Centre for Disease Control (RCDC)

It is a centre of excellence on health and disease prevention and control in the country, with the facility of bio-safety level-3 laboratory. The centre shall generate reliable scientific information on health and diseases to ensure well-informed policies and promote effective and sustainable public health interventions.

Surveillance and reporting mechanism have been developed in the form of National Early Warning, Alert & Response Surveillance (NEWARS) to be able to notify Public Health Events of International Concern as required by the IHR (2005).

b. Seismology Division

Seismology Division under Department of Geology and Mines, Ministry of Economic affairs is responsible for setting up the seismic monitoring network to improve understanding of earthquake processes and impacts. Further the preparation of seismic hazard & risk maps will be also done by Seismology Division.

c. Department of Hydromet Services (DHMS)

The DHMS provide early warnings and alerts of extreme events including Glacier Lake outburst Floods (GLOF). In addition DHMS will provide forecasts and warnings of floods and related information within the country. Currently DHMS operates 25 hydrological stations, 15 Flood Warning Stations, 20 Agro-meteorological stations and 76 Climatology stations and a GLOF Early warning system in the Punakha-Wangdi valley.

3.1.7 Capacity building

Capacity building here refers to various training and public education measures that are designed to provide organizations, staffs, first responders, volunteers and at-risk community members with the knowledge and skills to prepare and respond effectively to disasters and health emergencies. Thus capacity building can be a key to minimizing the impact of disasters and to ensure a robust and resilient response system.

The capacity of the community to deal with the effects of the disasters and emergencies can be improved by training first responders or volunteers in first aid. First responders should be trained in providing pre-hospital care for anyone in a medical emergency. First responders shall include police, Desuups, fire fighters, EMTs, tourist guides, among others.

In health care facilities' setting, health workers including doctors and nurse shall be trained and updated on PALS, ATLS and ACLS. At Ministry level and Dzongkhag level, program personnel and district health officers should be trained in Emergency Management. In addition, integrating a Health Emergency Management course in any pre-service training for the new civil servants should be mandated in order to be more equipped with skills and knowledge during the times of emergencies.

3.1.8 Mock Drill Exercises and Simulations

Exercising is the culminating component of response preparedness. Exercising brings the skills, knowledge, functions and systems together and applies them against event scenarios. This provides the closest thing to an event to evaluate the state of response preparedness. (Refer Guideline for Conducting Emergency and Disaster Simulation and Drills for more details)

Exercises are generally classified as:

- Tabletop: discussions and problem solving in an open forum.
- Paper: event and response actions simulated using paper as the form to communicate and take action.
- Communications (electronic): event and response actions are simulated and all
 information flow is conducted using the communications systems which would
 normally be used to facilitate information flow.
- Practical or field exercise: events are physically simulated. Responses are carried out using the resources that would be employed during a "real" emergency or disaster.

3.1.9 Risk Reductions

Risk reduction is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyze and reduce the causal factors of disasters. Reducing exposure to hazards, lessening vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improving preparedness and early warning for adverse events are all examples of risk reduction of emergencies and disaster. Risk reduction aims to reduce the damage caused by natural hazards like earthquakes, floods, droughts and cyclones, through an ethic of prevention. Risk assessment on natural disasters, epidemics, chemical, biological and radiological will be carried out in collaboration with different relevant stakeholders.

3.1.10 Risk Communication

Risk communication plays a key role in responding to public health emergencies and disasters. The systems and processes within MoH and among relevant sector/stakeholders for an effective risk communication will be established. Different communication approaches will be identified to reach different target population

including vulnerable and at risk populations. Risk communication teams will coordinate and implement the activities in consultation and guidance of the associated response plan.

3.2 Responses

The health sector focus on following types of responses:

3.2.1 Rapid Health Assessment

When disasters occur, the health sector will carry out rapid field assessment within 24 hours of reported incidents. The rapid health assessment format and guideline will be distributed throughout the country by EMSD. It is expected to facilitate the rapid field assessment aftermath of any disasters.

3.2.2 Medical Surge Capacity

The ability to respond effectively to events like disasters and epidemics producing a massive influx of patients that disrupt daily operations requires surge capacity. Surge capacity is the ability to manage a sudden, unexpected increase in patient volume that would otherwise severely challenge or exceed the current capacity of the healthcare system" (Hick et al. 2004)

Key components of surge capacity include the four S's: 'staff,' 'stuff,' 'structure,' and 'systems.' Staff refers to health personnel, stuff consists of supplies and equipment, structure refers to facilities, and systems include integrated management policies and processes.

In order to deploy health personnel and mobilise supplies effectively and efficiently during the times of emergencies and disasters, MoH has identified and clustered 20 districts into 3 hubs (as shown in the figure no 1). The 3 hubs will function as follows:

- a. Surge capacity to respond in 3 regions i.e. Western, Eastern and Central Region.
- b. The National Referral Hospital and Regional Referral Hospitals will serve as the hubs for medical emergency response.
- c. Health facilities in the Dzongkhags of respective region will form a cluster under each of the hub.

d. Hubs will have the team of trained health workers and field hospitals as well as stock pile of medical supplies. Health personnel can be deployed from the districts to the site of the disaster within each cluster.

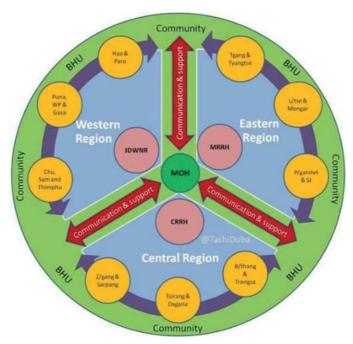


Figure 1 Mechanism of Medical Surge System

3.2.3 Mass Casualty Management

Mass casualties following disasters and major incidents are often characterized by a quantity, severity, and diversity of injuries and other patients that can rapidly overwhelm the ability of local medical resources to deliver comprehensive and definitive medical care. Casualties associated with natural disasters, particularly rapid-onset disasters, are overwhelmingly due to:

- a. blunt trauma.
- b. crush-related injuries.
- c. drowning.
- d. mental health issues.

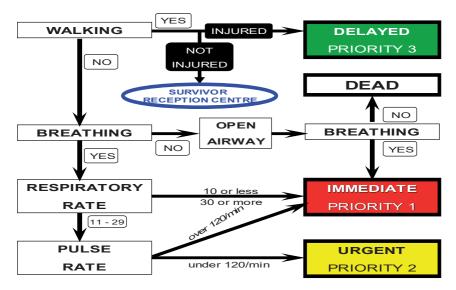
Most people affected by natural disasters DO NOT DIE and many

deaths and long term consequences for casualties are preventable with timely and appropriate intervention. Therefore it is important to have an effective mass casualty incident management.

Mass Casualty Incident Management involves the following areas:

- a. Establishment of field command post nearest to the emergency site from where all the involved agencies operates in close coordination.
- b. Applying principles of medical and non-medical triage.
- c. Establish Advance Medical Post (AMP) which includes:
 - Medical Evacuation Centre (MEC)
 - Dispatching of the patients
 - Network of receiving hospitals
 - Transportation of injured/ill patients
 - Medical life-saving procedures
- d. Principles of color tagging

Figure 2: Triaging Procedures in Mass Casualty Management (MCM



Capillary refill test (CRT) is an alternative to pulse rate, but is unreliable in the cold or dark: when used, a CRT >2 secs indicates PRIORITY 1

Keep a record of the NUMBER and PRIORITY of casualties you triage
Pass this to the AMBULANCE COMMANDER on completion

	On Scene		Hospital Care	;
Color Tag	Priority for evacuation	Medical needs	Priority	Conditions
Red	1 st	Immediate care	1 st	Life-threatening
Yellow	2 nd	Need care, injuries not life threatening	2 nd	Urgent
Green	3 rd	Minor injuries	3 rd	Delayed
Black	Not a priority	Dead	Last	Dead

Health Services in Mass Casualty Management includes following:

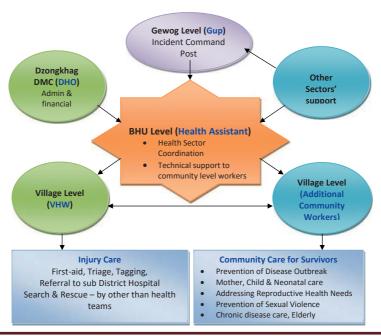
- a. Casualty management (first aid, triage, transport, pre-hospital care, in-patient care, out-patient care).
- b. Communicable disease control (surveillance, tracking, treatment, prophylaxis, isolation and quarantine).
- c. Continuity of delivery of critical services.
- d. Management of the dead.(in preservation and
- e. Management of information (public information; support activities; health info system).
- f. Mental health.
- g. Environmental health.

Figure no 4 and 5 illustrate the mass casualty management system at District/Hopital and geog level respectively. Refer "SOP for Mass Casualty Incident Management" for more details on mass casualty management.

DHO/MS/CMO receive information Disaster site **Health Emergency Operation Control Room** Center ಧ Refer Move 1 Rapid Response **Trauma Team HoDs and Unit** Team **Incharge** Respective Wards **Emergency** Department (ER)

Figure 4: Mass Casualty management system at District/Hospital level

Figure 5: Incident Management System at Gewog level



3.2.4 Ambulance Services

The primary role of all ambulance services is to provide timely delivery of emergency medical services, thus improving accessibility of health care services. At the moment, country provides the ambulances services through 130 land ambulances and 2 helicopters around the country. Health Help Centre shall ensure the effective communication and dispatch of land ambulances through toll free number 112. (Refer "Ambulance Service Guideline" for more details on ambulance service). Further the helicopter services shall be availed for an evacuation of critically ill or injured patients as per the criteria set in the "Guideline on use of Helicopter for medical Emergencies."

3.2.5 Sphere Project in Heath Sector

The Sphere Project's Humanitarian Charter Minimum Standards in Disaster Response is an internationally recognised guideline that provide useful guidelines for provision of humanitarian assistance in health emergencies and disasters. The following box summarise the Sphere Project's key recommendations regarding the health sector's response in health emergencies and disasters:

Sphere Project regarding the Health Response

1. Analysis

- a) Initial assessment The initial assessment determines as accurately as possible the health effects of a disaster, identifies the health needs and establishes priorities for health programming.
- b) Data collection The health information system regularly collects relevant data on population, diseases, injuries, environmental conditions and health services in a standardised format in order to detect major health problems.
- c) Data review The health information system data, and changes in the disaster affected population, are regularly reviewed and analysed for decision-making and appropriate response.
- d) Monitoring and evaluation Data collected is used to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions in controlling diseases and in preserving health.
- e) Participation The disaster-affected population has the opportunity to participate in the design and implementation of the assistance programme.

2. Control of Communicable Diseases

- a) Monitoring The occurrence of communicable disease is monitored.
- b) Investigation and control Diseases of epidemic potential are investigated and controlled according to internationally accepted norms and standards
- c) Measles Control Measles vaccination campaigns should be assigned the highest priority at the earliest time in emergency situations

3. Health Care Services

- a) Appropriate medical care Emergency health care for disaster-affected populations is based on an initial assessment and data from an ongoing health information system and serves to reduce excess mortality and morbidity through appropriate medical care.
- b) Reduction of morbidity and mortality Health care in emergencies follows primary health care principles and targets health problems that cause excess morbidity and mortality.

4. Human Resource Capacity and Training

- a) Competence Health interventions are implemented by staff who have appropriate qualifications and experience for the duties involved and who are adequately managed and supported.
- b) Support Members of the disaster affected population receive support to enable them to adjust to their new environment and to make optimal use of the assistance provided to them
- Local capacity Local capacity and skills are used and enhanced by emergency health interventions.

3.3 Emergency Preparedness And Response Action Plan

Table 11: Emergency Preparedness Action at Community Level

Action By Whom	Village volunteers/ Tshogpa/Mangmi /Gup/HA	shovel, Village volunteers/ Tshogpa/	Mangmi/Gup	ps) in consultation with Disaster mpetency of Ministry of Health	ols, EMSD, DoPH								ard DoMSHI, DMS				ard EMSD/HHC, DMS			ıts	и
Resources Required	Training protocol, Hazard map	equipment, and other tools		sloped by the village-chiefs (Gul this operation is beyond the con	- Training & treatment protocols, EMSD, DoPH	guidelines, training materials.	- Advocacy materials - Helmets/gloves/gimboots	- /topes/torches	- Human Resources	- Drugs			Guidelines/instructions and standard DoMSHI, DMS	for Medical supply inventory,	storage, and replenishment	arrangements	Guidelines/instructions and standard EMSD/HHC, DMS	for streamlining referral system	while addressing day-to-day	illnesses, road-side/home accidents	etc in terms of medical evacuation
Detailed Intervention Areas	 Training on identifying risk, community volunteers 	Identification of safe location as well as Emergency shelter for vulnerable communities with towels, tents	adequate water, sanitation, waste disposal facilities and community volunteer	Security and Evacuation Plan is to be developed by the village-chiefs (Gups) in consultation with Disaster Management Departmental officials. As such, this operation is beyond the competency of Ministry of Health	 Arrangement for providing training of 	communities health group, VHW in the	areas of;	- First aid services	- Health promotion	- Antenatal care, MCH reproductive health,	against sexual violence, food & nutrition	(minimum initial service package)	 Prepare a national inventory of supplies 	required.	 Strengthening existing medical and other 	supply management system to meet regular emergencies	Establish an action plan to adopt	emergency referral system in line with	ambulance mobilization guidelines and	use HHC as referral coordination centers	including back-up support.
Activities	Identify the disaster risk	Community Evacuation Plan		Security plan for vulnerable community	Building human resource capacity	for communities							Mobilization of necessary	medical supplies and logistic	support		Strengthening of existing referral	systems from community to	dzongkhag/ regional / national	hospitals.	

Establish line of communication with nearest BHUs and hospitals	•	Establish line of communication with nearest BHUs and hospitals for back up services if emergencies and disaster is beyond the coping capacity of the community/BHU.	Support from	ОНО		
Assess BHU safety level		 Training on BHU vulnerability Carry out BHU vulnerability assessment Act on the findings of the assessment 	Guidelines assessment	ou	on vulnerability HA	НА

Table 12: Emergency Response Action at Community level

Activities	Detailed Areas of Intervention		Resources	Actions
			What	By whom
Immediate Notification	■ Provide first aid	•	Walkie-talkies	VHW/HA
(reporting)	 Report to the nearest health facilities 	•	Mobile phones	
	 Give an accurate on-scene report 	•	Standard reporting	
	 Initiate triage and report to dispatch 	_	format/situation reporting	
	 Verify rumors 	_	format	
Health need assessment	■ Perform rapid health need assessment	•	Training on rapid health need	HA
	 Assess the disaster magnitude, numbers 		assessment	
	affected, location and urgent requirement	•	Standard reporting form	
	of the casualties			
Resources	 Mobilize additional human resources to: 	•	Need based additional human	
	 Provide first aid, transport, initiate traffic 		resources and fund	
	control and provide victim protection	•	Ambulance	
	 Mobilize additional first aid equipment 	•	Color tags	
	and Coordinate transportation	•	Stretcher, splints, first aid kits	
		•	Ambulance mobilization	
		53	guidelines	
First-aid at Site	■ Provide first aid	•	Stretchers	VHW/HA
	 Stabilized the patient 	•	Village volontiers	

		-		
	Iriaging and color tagging	■ Color tag		
	 Sympathy & Reassurances. 	 Standard First and kits 	kits	
	 If cold, facilitate to give them blankets 	 Other supplies as required 	equired	
	 Priority treatment to children, women, 	 Technical protocols for 	s for	
	elderly & handicapped.	treatment at site.		
	 Listing of injured and dead if brought. 	 Supply of Training and 	gand	
	 Use taps, cones, flags to mark areas 	advocacy materials.	Š	
	Court vi ni ni ni ni nadi na maliana na ni	Standard first Aid Kits	Kits	Elect acceptandon/UA/DDT
ırıage	Sort victims according to meir injuries and	• Color tags		First responder/HA/KK1
	color tagged – can be treated at site, can wait	■ Training		
	for transportation, needs immediate referrals	 Technical protocols for Tagging 	ls for Tagging	
	& transportation and Dead	at site, dzongkhag, regional and	, regional and	
	•	national hospitals.)	
		 Supply of Training 	raining and	
		advocacy materials		
		■ Referral protocols		
Treatment at BHU	 Stabilize those who are 	 Drugs. 		HA
	iniured/traumatized	Medical equipment	t	
	■ Once Triage is done move nationts to the	Referral protocols		
	- Once illage is done, move patients to the		-	
	proper treatment area	 Management protocol 	ocol	
	 Use taps, cones, flags, to mark areas 	 Training and advocacy 	cacy	
	 Control access to areas 	materials		
Transportation of casualties to	 Ambulances report to staging area 	 Training. 		HHC
designated hospitals	 Transportation Officer assigns patients to 	 Ambulance 		
	ambulances	 Communication equipment 	quipment	
	 Broadcast the "All Immediate 	 Standard technical protocols for 	protocols for	
	Transported"	Tagging at site and in hospitals.	l in hospitals.	
	 Hospitals to be notified. 	 Referral protocol 	ı	
	 Advice on en-route care/capability of the 	 Patient management protocol 	nt protocol	
	hospital			
	 Activate disaster plan at hospital level 			
	 Update control area/EMS dispatch as 			
	status changes			

	After arriving hospital, perform re-triage and provide medical care as per need. At all stages of the hospital's response activities, patient management systems, and procedures should be documented		
Establish field hospital and command post	 Identify and area for establishment of command post Select an areas or zones to be used for first-level classification (triaging) and do tagging of the casualties prior to their transfer medical care center Assign crews specific tasks Initiate assessment and treatment 	SOP delineating function of dzongkhag and MoH emergency control rooms. Job action sheet	
Search & Rescue Search the victims who may be trapped under the ruins of buildings that have collapsed, buried under mud or landslides, cut off by floods or the blockage of communication routes	Search and Rescue are specialized areas. Public Health personnel are not trained for search & rescue. As such, these operations are beyond the competency of Ministry of Health	lic Health personnel are not trained for searcl of Ministry of Health	ı & rescue. As such,
Dealing with the dead	When the disaster results in a large number of deaths, the community should organize: Transport of the dead bodies, Place to put them before their cremation Certification/identification of dead in hospital	Form for listing of deaths, injured and referral support and drugs for preserving dead bodies Technical protocol for management of dead bodies at site, dzongkhag, regional and national hospitals Facilitate arranging Forensic Specialist/ Assistant Forensic Specialist/ MO to the affected sites Training and advocacy materials.	spital

Table 13: Emergency Preparedness Action for Displaced/Isolated Population

Activities		Detailed Intervention Areas		Resource Required	Actions
				What	By Whom
Disease surveillance and early warning system	-	Early warning system for disease outbreak	•	Technical protocols for early warning against potential disease	
0	•	System of outbreak investigation and		outbreaks at site, dzongkhag,	
		rumor investigation		regional and national levels	
	•	Weekly/monthly epidemiological	•	Disease management protocol	DoPH, RCDC
		analysis	•	Notifiable disease emergency	
	•	Early warning for disease outbreak.		reporting forms.	
	•	Listing of notifiable diseases	•	Supply of training and advocacy	
				materials.	
			•	Stationery and forms	
Disease prevention	•	System of organizing active disease	•	Technical protocols for	
		surveillance on a short notice.		undertaking preventive public	
	•	Mechanism to expand the routine		health measures at Sites	
		immunization functions within a short	•	Investigation team	DoPH, RCDC, VBCP, HPD
		period.	•	Vaccine and immunization	
	•	Mechanism to quickly mobilize the		facilities	
		emergency immunization in the	•	Fund	
		community	•	Spraying machine, insecticides,	
				bed-nets,	
			•	Training and advocacy materials.	
Disease Containment	•	Mechanism to expand the medical	•	Technical protocols for Disease	
		treatment facilities on a short notice.		containment in case of any	
	•	Availability of functional patients'		outbreak at the affected site,	
		isolation facility on a short notice.		dzongkhag, regional and national	DMS, DoPH, RCDC
	•	Existing arrangements for expanding		levels	
		the medication facilities at the	•	Facility provision for patient	
		community level.		isolation, first aid equipment,	
	•	Addressing day-to-day illnesses.		format for medical supply	
	•	Meeting the road-side/home accidents -		inventory, space for medical	
		First-aid and referral arrangements.			

	-	Medical supply inventory, storage, replenishment arrangements	•	supply storage, Prescriptions and other forms Training and advocacy materials.	
Health promotion		Distribute advocacy materials to the affected sites. Carry out advocacy on health risk and health services		Technical protocols for undertaking health promotion activities in the vulnerable/highrisk BHU, at site dzongkhag, regional and national levels. Training and advocacy materials	DoPH (HPD)

Table 14: Emergency Response Action for Displaced/Isolated Population

Activities	Detailed Intervention Areas		Resources Required	Action
			What	B y Whom
Disease outbreak response	 Sentinel site of early warning system of 	•	Technical protocols for Early	
	epidemic prone diseases, outbreak		Warning against potential disease	
	response (NEWARS)		outbreaks at site dzongkhag, regional	
	 Diagnosis and treatment of communicable 	le	and national levels.	DoPH, RCDC
	disease.	•	Disease management protocol	
	 Refer suspected TB cases 	•	Training and advocacy materials.	
		•	Vector control (IEC + impregnated	
			bed nets + in/out door	
		•	IEC on locally priority diseases (e.g.	
			TB self-referral, malaria self-referral,	
			others)	
Child health:	■ EPI: routine immunization against all	•	Technical protocols for the identified	
	national target diseases and adequate cold	p.	"Child-health" activities at site,	DoPH, ARI Program,
	chain in place		BHU, dzongkhag, regional and	VPDP Program
	 Under 5 clinic conducted by IMNCI- 		national levels.	
	trained health staff	•	IMNCIIEC materials focus on child	
			health plus active case findings	
		•	Basic drugs	

		ARI/pneumonia, dehydration due to acute diarrhea		Additional HR, vaccines, drugs Vaccines equipment	
	•	Community mobilization for and support	•	Drugs/cold chain/stationeries	
		to mass vaccination campaigns and/or	•	Weighing scale/ tape/stationeries	
		mass drug administration/treatments	•	Referral support	
Nutrition	•	Screening of malnutrition/severe		Technical protocols for the identified	
		malnutrition		"Nutrition" activities at site, BHU,	
		o Weight& age		dzongkhag, regional and national	
		o MUĀC		levels.	
	•	Follow up of children enrolled in	•	Training.	
		supplementary/therapeutic feeding (trace	•	Reporting format.	DoPH, Nutrition Program
		defaulters)	•	MCH handbook.	
	•	Community therapeutic care of severe	•	Weighing scale	
		malnutrition	•	Register	
	•	Management of malnutrition (moderate	•	Referral support	
		and severe)	•	Supply of Training and advocacy	
	•	Participate with the department; agencies		materials	
		involved with "Nutrition and Food			
		Sector" activities.			
STI & HIV/AIDS	•	Community leaders advocacy on STI/	•	Technical protocols for the identified	
		HIV		"S11 & HIV/AIDS" related activities	
	•	IEC on prevention of STI/HIV infections		at site, BHU, dzongkhag, regional	
		and behavioral change communication		and national levels	
	•	Ensure access to free condoms	•	STI & HIV/AIDS management	DoPH, NACP Program
	•	Syndromic management of sexually		protocol	
		transmitted infections	•	GMC/Scale/child handbook	
	•	Standard precautions: disposable needles	•	Fund	
		& syringes, safety sharp disposal	•	IEC materials, fund, manpower	
		containers, Personal Protective Equipment	•	Supply of condoms	
		(PPE), sterilizer	•	Drugs and other required supply	
	•	Availability of free condoms	•	Safety box,	
	•	VCT for HIV	•	PPE, sterilizer, autoclave	
	•	Antiretroviral treatment (ART	•	Condom, Box	

	•	Participate with the department, agencies	-	Counseling skills & Knowledge	
		involved with "STI & HIV/AIDS"	•	Safe delivery kits/IEC material	
		activities.	•	Drugs/contraceptive	
			•	Drugs, IEC materials	
			•	Resuscitation set, heating, O2,	
				Emergency drugs/training	
			•	Delivery set	
			•	Drugs/Refresher	
				course/staff/equipment/guidelines	
			•	Training and advocacy materials.	
Maternal & newborn health	•	Clean home delivery, including	•	Technical protocols for the identified	
		distribution of clean delivery kits to		"Maternal & Newborn" activities at	
		visibly pregnant women, IEC and		site, BHU, dzongkhag, regional and	
		behavioral change communication,		national levels.	
		knowledge of danger signs and	•	Training and advocacy materials.	
		where/when to go for help, support breast	•	Safe delivery kits/IEC material	DoPH, RH Program
		feeding	•	Drugs/contraceptive	
	•	Family planning	•	Resuscitation set, heating, O2,	
	•	Antenatal care: assess pregnancy, birth		Emergency drugs/training	
		and plan respond to problems (observed	•	Delivery set	
		and/or reported), advise/counsel on	•	Drugs/Refresher	
		nutrition & breastfeeding, self-care and		course/staff/equipment/guidelines	
		family planning, preventive treatment(s)	•	Drugs/Refresher	
		as appropriate		course/staff/equipment/guideline	
	•	Skilled care during childbirth for clean		Referral support	
		and safe normal delivery			
	•	Essential newborn care: basic newborn			
		resuscitation + warmth (recommended			
		method: Kangaroo Mother Care - KMC)			
		+ eye prophylaxis + clean cord care +			
		early and exclusive breast feeding 24/24			
		7/L 88			
	•	Basic emergency obstetric care			
		(BEmOC): prenatal antibiotics + oxytocic			

		/ anti-convulsions drugs + manual removal of placenta + removal of retained products + assisted vaginal delivery 24/24 & 7/7 Post-partum care: examination of mother and newborn (up to 6 weeks), respond to observed signs, support breast feeding, promote family planning Comprehensive abortion care: Management of post abortion care, uterine evacuation using MVA or medical methods, antibiotic prophylaxis, treatment of abortion and post-abortion contraception Participate with the department/ agencies involved with "Maternal & Newborn" related activities.					
Sexual violence		Develop Management protocol Clinical management of rape survivors (including psychological support) Emergency contraception Participate with Police and other departments, involved with "Sexual Violence related activities".		Technical protocols for the identified "Sexual Violence" activities at site, BHU, dzongkhag, regional and national levels Management protocol for rape survivors Reporting and investigation team Referral support EC pills Supply of Training and advocacy materials.	DoPH (RH, and Mental Program, HPD)	(RH, Adolescent Mental Health 1, HPD)	elescent Health
Physically handicapped, Psycho-social & mental health	•	Promotion of self-care, provision of basic health care and psychosocial support, identification and referrals of severe cases for treatment, provision of needed followup to people discharged by facility-based	•	Technical protocols for the identified "Physically handicapped, psychosocial & mental health" activities at site, BHU, dzongkhag, regional and national levels.	DoPH (CBRP)	(Mental	Health,

	 health and social services for people with chronic health conditions, disabilities and mental health problems Mental health care: support of acute distress and anxiety, front line management of severe and common mental disorders Participate with the department, agencies involved with "physically handicapped, psychosocial & mental health," activities.	 Iranning and advocacy materials. Drugs Diagnostic kits Referral support General Psychosocial Intervention Specific Psychosocial intervention Identification of mental problems and referral	
Non communicable diseases, injuries	 Injury care and mass casualty management Hypertension treatment Diabetes treatment Participate with the department, agencies involved with "Non-communicable diseases & Injuries related Sectors" activities. Develop management protocol	 Technical protocols for the identified "Non-communicable diseases &injuries related" activities at site, BHU, dzongkhag, regional and national levels Training and advocacy materials Drugs Ambulance Communication support Additional manpower support Drugs Basic equipment like BP instrument etc. Referral support	DoPH (NCD, CBR)
Environmental health (Water + sanitation + hygiene)	 Safe waste disposal Clean drinking water supply Proper sanitation IEC on hygiene promotion Community mobilization for cleanup campaigns and/or other sanitation activities Design standards for toilet construction and minimum numbers of toilets at sites)	 Technical protocols for the identified "Environmental heath (Water + Sanitation + Hygiene)" activities at site, BHU, dzongkhag, regional and national levels. Minimum water supply quantity and quality Standards Environmental health management protocol	Environmental Program, PHED

 Training and advocacy materials. 	 Supply of Waste disposal pit/buckets 	(3 colors)	 Manpower support 	 Broom/detergents/dust 	collector/sanitary gloves	 IEC materials/water testing kits 	 Close Linkages with dzongkhag 	water, sanitation and hygiene team	 Testing kits 	WCT training	• CDH	 Field Latrine equipment 	Subsidized bins	 Waste disposal pit/buckets (3 colors) 	 Manpower 	 Broom/detergents/dust 	collector/sanitary gloves	 IEC materials/water testing kits 	Close Linkages with local water,	sanitation and hygiene team
Participate with the department, agencies	involved with "Environmental heath	(Water + Sanitation + Hygiene)" related	activities.																	
_																				

Table 15: Emergency Preparedness Actions at Dzongkhag Level

Activities	Detailed Intervention Areas	Resources Required	Actions
		What	By Whom
Hazard Mapping and	 Prepare dzongkhag -wise national 	 Hazard assessment form 	EMSD, DHO
Vulnerability Analysis	health related emergency map – BHU	- Technical capacity on hazard	
	wise – hazard zoning and	assessment	
	epidemiological profile based on	 Map of health facilities 	
	hazards		

		- Earthquake - Flood/GLOF - Landslides - Fire			
		- Wind-Storm			
		 A Based on disease epidemiology Based on availability Health facilities 			
Developing a dzongkhag	•	Develop hazard assessment form	1	Hazard Profile	EMSD, DHO
Disaster Contingency Plan	•	Develop Contingency planning process	1	Hazard assessment form	
		format		Form for contingency planning Budget, equipment, drugs	
Establishment of Emergency	•	Lay down Emergency communication	ı	Identify space for EC room	EMSD, DHO
Control Room in DHO office		guidelines and procedure	ı	Computer with printer, fax	
	•	Develop reporting format	'	Reporting format	
			•	Lay down Emergency	
				communication guidelines and	
				procedure	
Health Sector Administrative	•	Decentralized administrative and	1	Assess the budget requirement and	
and financial arrangement		financial authorities		provide fund.	
	•	Advance Financial need assessment for	1	Delegation of administrative and	
		emergency preparedness and response		2	
		 Executive order. 		emergencies with minimum	
		o Responsibility identification.		procedure under overall guidance	
				and supervision of the designated	
		o Emergency lunds for LA/DA	,	Budget provision for any	
				en expenditure	
				financial authorit	
Transport and patient referral	-	Develop a SOP for ambulance and	7 -	Assess ambulance and other	EMSD, HHC
		transport requirements.	_	transport requirements	
	•	Tie-up with nearby Hospital for		 Establish linkages with 	
		ambulance services as part of referral		ambulance project.	
		support			

	•	Advance Emergency transport needs assessment to be deployed at the time of		 Driver deployment with transport, duty-roaster 	
		emergency		and relief driver.	
				o Budget for fuel, over-	
				time etc.	
Planning for Skill development	•	Develop training modules		Budget	DMS, EMSD, DHO
	•	Provide training of trainer	ı	Training materials	
	•	Institutionalization of health sector			
		emergency preparedness training in			
		public health, Para-medical and medical			
		curricula			
Developing training program	•	Prepare dzongkhag inventory of	ı	Training modules	DMS/DoPH, DHO
for the community level health		requirements - equipment, training	ı	Training equipment	
workers		materials, money along-with delegation	ı	Money and advocacy materials	
		of administrative and financial			
		authorities.			
	•	Time-frame for training to BHU and			
		dzongkhag public health workers			
	•	Training and advocacy materials.			
	•	Facilitate and monitor simulation			
		exercises			

Table 16: Emergency Response Action at Dzongkhag Level

Activities		Detailed Intervention Areas	Resources Required	Action
			What	By Whom
Emergency Related Reporting	•	 Develop Reporting form 	Reporting forms	EMSD, DHO
& Monitoring of emergency	•	Standard guidelines on establishing	Guidelines on establishing command	
situation		command and control post	post	
	•	Establishment of dzongkhag control &		
		command system		

	-	Constitute health sector coordination			
		committee			
Assessment of the impact	-	Develop and make available assessment form	Assessment form		EMSD, DHO
	•	Dzongkhag health sector Assessment			
Dzonokhao Health sector	-	Constitution of Health Sector	Guidelines find SOP		FMSD DHO
Coordination		Emergency/disaster Coordination	Culturney teath, co.		LMDF, 7110
		Committee			
	-	Draw job action sheet for specific task			
Administrative Support for	•	Carry out supply need assessment	Guidelines on supply need	pa	EMSD, DHO
field level activities	•	Carry out transport need assessment	assessment		
Emergency Planning for	•	Medical Supply needs assessment	Guidelines and SOPs on transport	transport	
Medical Supply needs	•	Surge capacity assessment	need assessment	•	
Emergency Planning for			Medical supply need assessment	sesment	
Transportation facilities			form		
 Emergency planning for 			Guidelines and forms on manpower	1 manpower	
medical supply			need assessment		
Emergency Planning for			Medicines, vehicles, HR, Fund	Fund	
human resources to					
mobilize at a short notice					
Technical Support to BHU and	•	Formation of rapid response team	■ First aid kits & equipment	int	BHU, DHO
Village level activities through	•	Provide First-aid & Treatment	 Medical supplies, 		
Rapid Response Team	•	Provide Outpatient services	reagents/chemicals & equipment	quipment	
	•	Provide basic laboratory services	■ Drugs, beds, linens, other supplies	er supplies	
	•	Enhanced BHU and hospital admission	■ Ambulances, handsets, mobile	mobile	
		capacity	 Referral procedures, means of 	ans of	
	-	Strengthened referral capacity	communication and transportation	sportation	

Table 17: Hospital Emergency Preparedness in Hospital

Activities	Detailed Intervention Areas		Resources Required	Action
			What	By whom
Hospital vulnerability assessment	 Identification of the various types of vulnerabilities that must be considered in hospital settings Structural vulnerabilities Non-structural vulnerabilities Functional vulnerability, Administrative and organisational vulnerabilities 		Training Fund	Adm Officer/ DHO/Maintenance Unit
Medical Supplies	 Supplies inventory and Storage space 		Drugs and equipment	DНО, СМО
Human resources	 Linked up with nearby hospital for back up services 		Operational plan for back up services	Adm Officer/DHO
Internal Communication	Set up hospital Communication system		HR, Equipment's- Hotline, fax, tele, walkie-talkie and provision for free voucher	Adm Officer/CMO
Technical components	 Plan for staffs + stock, mobilization from the nearby Health center 		H. Resource Supplies.	Adm Officer/CMO
Maintenance procedures (back- up for water, power, etc.)	 Linked up existing staff, dept. of power, dzongkhag engineering and municipal 		Maintenance staff, electrician, plumbers, cleaner and supplies	Adm Officer/CMO/ Maintenance Unit
Emergency Response Plan	 Set up Emergency medical team – Rapid Response Team 		Human resource, supplies of medicine and equipment, transportation and communication	Adm Officer/CMO
SOPs	 Develop SOPs for emergency Operation 		Guidelines and training material, finance, human resource and logistic support	Adm Officer/CMO
Security External Vulnerabilities	Develop security plan	-	Security personnel, budget and logistics	Adm Officer/CMO
Access to road	 Linked up with DOR and police 		Human resource, transport and communication equipment	Adm Officer/CMO/DHO
Electrical and water supply & communication	Linked up with Power, municipal and telecom	-	Power, municipal and telecom	Adm Officer/CMO/DHO

Geographical location and building structure vulnerable to earthquake, floods, storm, landslide etc	-	HIDP (Hospital Infrastructure Development Project), Planner		HR and finance Training	Adm Officer/CMO/DHO
Functional Vulnerabilities	•	Development of systems that can remain operational during a disaster or recover their functional capacity in a relatively short time		Hospital rapid response team (HR, supplies, equipment) Training	Adm Officer/ CMO/DHO
Hospital Surge Capacity	-	Listing of nearby hospitals, available bed capacity, Number of staff (total / doctors / nurses / allied medical / support / others), available Specialty, departments, Emergency department capacity	-	Fund	Adm Officer/ CMO/DHO
Policies and procedures		Written hospital-wide preparedness plan Training program for the staff on disaster preparedness Essential infrastructure needed for mitigation and response during a disaster Review and evaluation of the preparedness program	•	Fund	Adm Officer/ CMO/DHO
Hospital Emergency Preparedness plan		Constitute hospital Emergency committee Clearly describe role of each personnel and action cards	•	Fund	Adm Officer/ CMO/DHO
Plan for mobilizing drugs and medical team from outside	-	Establish understanding with other nearby hospital to mobilize drugs and medical team from their hospital	•	Fund and transportation facilities	Adm Officer/ CMO/DHO/MOH
Exercise/mock drill	•	Mock drill protocol and scenario checklist		HR/technical expertise/ Financial support/equipment	Adm Officer/ CMO/DHO/MOH
Dealing with media	•	Designate media focal person	•	Timely and accurate information feeding	Adm Officer/ CMO/DHO

Table 18: Emergency Response in Hospital

Actions	By whom	Adm Officer/ CMO			2000	Adm Officer/ CMO	Adm Officer/ CMO		Adm Officer/CMO
Resources Required	What	Human resourcesAmbulances/ communication	Equipment and others		11 -	Human resource Hospital emergency plan and communication equipment	 Human Resource (PRO, Security personnel, police, Desuups, volunteers), CCTV 	network Emergency alert alarm	Receptionist/Ward/Tel Operator/DHO
Detailed Intervention Areas		■ Establish and activate EOC in the hospital	 Activate Emergency Response Team—Emergency respond team report promptly to assess the disaster's magnitude and the number, location, and urgent requirements of casualties. 	M My Call E Exact Location T Type of Incident	E Emergency Service	- Coordinate emergency related activities inside the hospital - Monitor the utilization of available resources - Descriptions and conflicted.	Make Contingency fund available Activate the linked established with police, Desuups and volunteers		Establishing lines of communication with regional hospitals or satellite units to alert them of the need to activate and implement their respective emergency plans for mass care of the
Activities		Hospital Emergency Control Room				Management Priorities: Hospital Command Post	Security and traffic - Safety & Security of Hospital to manage patients care without any	hindrances also to prevent second disaster in hospital complex caused by intentional/unintentional motives.	Hospital communication center / EOC

	woun	wounded and emergency call to essential hospital staffs			
Reception and registration of incoming casualties: Name Age Address Telephone number Location etc	■ Sta	Standard forms on patient registration	HR (receptionist, MRO) Computers, Registration form	O) Computers,	Adm Officer/CMO
Public information	■ Ide	Identify and establish Public information center	 PRO,Public address system/ Public information board 	ss system/ n board	Adm Officer/CMO
Triage	■ Act Hos	Activating selected an area or zone to be used for Hospital level classification (triage) and	■ Human resources (EMT. Triage nurse etc.), Equipment	(EMT. Triage ment	Adm Officer/CMO
	idej ren care	identification (tagging) of casualties prior to their removal to different wards or to other medical care center	 Emergency drugs Triage areas – space cordoned of 	ice cordoned	
Decontamination area in case of chemical leakage	■ Ide	Identify decontamination area	■ Decontamination Equipment + space	Equipment +	Adm Officer/CMO
Resuscitation & Treatment Area	a Adda stab	Administering first aid to the wounded, including stabilization, hemorrhage control, clearing air passages, and, in some cases, blood-volume replacements. In administering first aid, the priorities assigned in the triage area must be observed	 Human resource (EMT, Nurses, doctors and other supporting staff) Emergency supplies Blood donors Emergency medical equipment's – list to be prepared 	EMT, Nurses, supporting les	Adm Officer/CMO
Transportation arrangement of patients to different location in hospital-ICU, CCU, OT etc	Act arra	Activate internal plan on transportation arrangement to different units	 Human resources (EMTs, Supporting staffs etc) Stretcher/wheel chair Adequate ambulance well equipped with life support systems 	(EMTs, etc) nair nce well support	Adm Officer/CMO
Radiology department and laboratories	■ Ke	Keep stock of reagents, alternative power supply and functional X-ray and portable USG	Equipment Reagents		Adm Officer/CMO

Operation Rooms Blood Bank		- ISO TOOL X -ray machines	
Operation Rooms Blood Bank	7	ODO alla Mila manimos	
Blood Bank	Form emergency operation team	 Human Resources, 	Adm Officer/CMO
Blood Bank	Equip facilities with necessary equipment	■ Equipment	
	Keep list of voluntary blood donor	 Blood bank 	Adm Officer/CMO
		 Voluntary blood donors 	
Forensic expertise and	Identify enough space for dead bodies, forensic	 Human resources and 	Adm Officer/CMO
temporary morgue to	specialist	equipment	
accommodate large number of		 Mortuary, temporary mortuaries 	
dead		 Transport for dead bodies 	
Evacuation plan to shift serious	Detailed evacuation plan, human resources,	Human resources (hospital	Adm Officer/CMO
patients in case of	Supplies and transportation	team/local volunteers/arm forces)	
structural/non-structural damage			
hospitals.			
Documentation of minimum data	Pre-hospital care report	 Reporting forms 	Adm Officer/CMO
sets	Patient refusal report		
•	Incident report		
Assessment of hospital damage	Form hospital damage assessment team	 Assessment form 	Adm Officer/CMO
Mass media management	Develop Policy and guidelines on dealing with	 Policy and guidelines on dealing 	Adm Officer/CMO
	mass media	with mass media	
Transport management	Alternative transport arrangement	 Ambulances/Pool vehicle 	Adm Officer/CMO
Environmental health	Guidelines on environmental health management	 HR (Environmental health 	Adm Officer/CMO
management		officer, municipal	
		personnel/finance/Equipment	
Mental health management	Guidelines on dealing with psycho-social issues	 Psychiatric ward, psychologist 	Adm Officer/CMO
Dead body management	Guidelines on dead body management	 Morgue, preservatives 	Adm Officer/CMO
		(formaldehyde)	

Table 19: Emergency Preparedness Action at National Level

Activities		Detailed Intervention Areas	Resources Required	Action
			What	By whom
Establish HEOC	• •	Identify the space Equipped the operating center with communication line, computer and printer	Computer, printers, Fax and communication facilities	nd EMSD
	•	Name and numbers of health sector coordinator at different level		
Emergency Preparedness and Response guidelines and	•	Facilitate relevant program to come up with guidelines and SOPs	Technical expertiseGuidance from TAC	All Programs
SOPs	•	Review and endorse guidelines and SOPs by TAC		
Technical Support to the Dzongkhag Hospitals	•	Provide support in Hazard mapping, vulnerability and capacity assessment of Dzongkhag hospitals	Technical expertiseGuidance from TAC	EMSD
Need Assessment		List down the public health risk of known hazard List the resources required for response	Need assessment form	EMSD
National Inventory of supplies	•	Prepare national inventory of supplies required	■ Inventory form	MSQU and DoMSHI
Establish HEOC	•	Identify the space, Set up communication channel, list of	 Human resources, 	EMSD
		heath sector coordinator, TV, Space for press release	 Equipment and 	
			 SOP for operating HEOC 	
Standard reporting	•	Training on how to use reporting form	 Standard reporting form 	
Coordination mechanism	•	Identify roles at different level and fix responsibilities	 Developed contingency plan 	an
Advocacy and awareness	• •	Health promotion material on risk of different hazards Strategies on health promotion for displace population	■ Pamphlets, posters	HPD
Establish Early warning	•	Provide weather, water, and climate data, forecasts and	■ GLOF Early Warning	Department of
system		warnings	System	Hydro-Met Services
	•	Provide adequate, reliable and timely Glacier Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) warnings to safeguard life and		(DHMS)
Ensure stocknile of	-	Conduct need assessment	■ Develop guidelines on	DoMSHI
emergency supplies and	•	Establish mechanism for stockpiling emergency supplies	mobilization and	
equipment		and equipment	stockpiling of emergency supply and equipment	

Establish coordination with	•	Establish coordination mechanism with International	 TOR with international 	EMSD/MOH
International organization		organization	organization	
	•	Form health cluster		
Transportation facilities	-	Plan transportation facilities specially during the	 Ambulances, Helicopter 	HHC/EMSD/MSD
		inaccessibility	during inaccessibility, truck	
			for logistic supply	
Development of policy, plan	•	Facilitate development of policy, plan guidelines,	Technical expertise to develop	EMSD
guidelines and protocols		protocols by programs to support field level activities	policy, plan guidelines,	
			protocols by programs to	
			support field level activities	
Dzongkhag Health Sector	•	Facilitate development of Dzongkhag Health Sector	Fund Technical support	EMSD
Emergency Contingency Plan		Emergency Contingency Plan		
Reporting mechanism and	-	Lay down procedures for getting emergency related from	Fund for laying down	EMSD
dissemination		community, dzongkhag, police, fire on daily basis	procedures	
Skill development	•	Develop training curriculum in UMSB	Funding	
	•	Provide training to dzongkhag and BHU staffs		

Table 20: Emergency Response Action at National Level

Activities		Detailed Intervention Areas	Resources Required	Action
			What	By whom
Back up support	•	Activate National RRT	Human resources,	EMSD/HHC
		Activate supply chain mechanism	Stock of logistics	
	•	Activate ambulance mobilization and back up mechanism	Ambulances pool	
HEOC	•	Activation HEOC which include reporting and coordination	Telephone lines	EMSD
		mechanism	Fax	
	•	Establish command center and identify Health Sector	Walkie-talkie	
		coordinator at different level	Reporting form	
Ensure continuous and		Activate the supply mechanism	Stock of drugs, equipment	MSQU/DoMSHI
adequate supply of drugs,			and other logistic required	
equipment and other logistics				
Mobilize international support	-	Mobilize international support	TOR with international	EMSD
if required			organization	

Chapter 4. Role and Responsibilities

4.1 Disaster Management Act 2013

As per the DMAB 2013, the health officials are represented in the following overall disaster management committees that make easy coordination among different sectors:

- a. NDMA under the chairpersonship of the Honorable Prime Minister is being represented by the Secretary of Health who shall update and coordinate regarding health sector response in emergencies and disasters.
- b. Dzongkhag Disaster Management Committee under the chairpersonship of the Dasho Dzongda is being represented by the DHO as co-opted member who will in turn update and coordinate health sector response in emergencies and disasters.
- c. The Dzongkhag Disaster Management Committee may, if it considers necessary, constitute a sub-committee at the Dungkhag, Thromde or Gewog level where in health officials (Dungkhag Health Officer/Medical Officer/HA) will represent and coordinate healthsectorresponsein emergencies and disasters.

4.2 Health Emergency Management Committee

Health Emergency Management Committee (HEMC) shall be the highest decision making body in the Health Ministry in any disasters, emergencies and disease outbreaks.

Composition of HEMC

- 1. Honorable Secretary as the Ex-officio Charperson
- 2. Director General/Director, DMS as the Ex-officio member
- 3. Director General/Director, DoPH as the Ex-officio member
- 4. Director General/Director, DoTM as the Ex-officio member
- 5. Director General/Director, DoMSHI as the Ex-officio member
- 6. Director General/Director, DoS as the Ex-officio member
- 7. Chief Planning Officer, PPD as the Ex-officio member
- 8. Medical Superintendent, JDWNRH as the Ex-officio member
- 9. Chief Program Officer, EMSD as the Ex-officio Member Secretary

Responsibilities of HEMC

The HEMC shall:

- a. Advise and update the NDMA on the emergencies situation
- b. Direct relevant departments and Regional Hospitals within Health Ministry for responses in health emergencies.
- c. Direct Health Ministry for resources mobilizations and allocations.
- d. Coordinate with Department of Disaster Management to mobilize resources (technical & financial support) from national and international partners.
- e. Approve and endorse Plan, policies, guidelines and SOPs on health emergencies as recommended by Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).
- Honorable Secretary will act as Incident Commander for any health emergencies.
- Director of DMS and Director of DoPH will serve as Operation Chief.
- Director of DoMSHI- Logistic Chief
- Director, DoS, MoH Administration and Finance
- CPO, PPD, MoH Public Information and Media

4.3 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

TAC will comprise of following technical personnel in providing technical assistance to HEOC:

Composition of TAC

- 1. Director General/Director, DMS as an Ex-officio Chairperson
- 2. Director General/Director, DoMSHI as an Ex-officio member
- 3. Chief Program Officer, CDD as an Ex-officio member
- 4. Chief Program Officer, NCD as an Ex-officio member
- 5. Head, RCDC, DoPH as an Ex-officio member
- 6. Chief Program Officer, Health Promotion Division as an Ex-officio member
- 7. Chief Program Officer, EMTD as an Ex-officio member
- 8. Chief Engineer, PHED, DoPH as an Ex-officio member
- 9. Head of Emergency Department, JDWNRH as an Ex-officio member

- 10. Chief Executive Officer, HHC, EMSD as an Ex-officio member
- 11. Program Officer, EMSD as an Ex-officio member secretary
- 12. Other member may be co-opted as per the need

Responsibilities of TAC

TAC shall:

- Review and recommend health emergency and disaster policy, guidelines, plans, SOPs and job responsibilities.
- b. Provide technical assistance to the HEOC on preparedness and response for emergency, disaster and disease outbreaks.
- c. Provide ongoing scientific advice, direction, feedbacks and technical backstopping to the HEMC.
- d. Standardize emergency equipment, medicines and first aid kit for hospitals, BHUs, ambulances and first responders.

4.4 Health Rapid Response Team (RRT) at National level Composition of RRT:

For Disease Outbreak	For disaster			
(Communicable disease outbreak &outbreak				
after Disaster				
1. Program Officer, EMSD	1. Program Officer, EMSD			
2. Epidemiologist, MoH	2. Engineer, PHED			
3. Head, RCDC	3.Engineer, HIDD			
* Other member may be co-onted in acc	ordance with nature of the disaster or			

^{*} Other member may be co-opted in accordance with nature of the disaster or situation (DoPH, DoMSHI, PHED, DHOs and other relevant stakeholders)

Responsibilities of RRT

RRT shall:

- a. Review available information about the events and affected areas.
- b. Carry out rapid needs assessments in cooperation with local authority at the site.
- c. Assess the immediate needs of the affected community using standard assessment tools.

- d. Evaluate health information and assess potential public health risks for the population.
- e. Gather and disseminate necessary public health in formation.
- f. Provide technical backup in disaster-affected areas.

4.5 Health Rapid Response Team at Dzongkhag Level

- 1. Dzongkhag Health Officer
- 2. Medical Officer/Clinical Officer
- 3. Medical Laboratory Technologist/Technician
- 4. Other member may be co-opted as per the need

Responsibilities

- a. Review available information about the events and affected areas.
- b. Cooperate with local authority in carrying out rapid needs assessments in the health sector in order to coordinate the response.
- c. Assess the immediate needs of the affected community using standard assessment tools.
- d. Evaluate health information and assess potential public health risks for the population.
- e. Advise the health sector in carrying out immediate interventions.
- f. Gather and rapidly disseminate necessary public health in formation.
- g. Provide technical backup in disaster-affected areas.

4.6 Emergency Medical Services Division (EMSD)

EMSD under DMS is the nodal division for coordinating, facilitating and supporting Dzongkhag to the Community in disaster management activities in all phases of disaster management cycle (before, during and after the disaster). EMSD shall:

- a. Facilitate other allied programs to come up with guidelines and SOPSs for emergencies.
- b. Build capacity of health workers on emergency and disaster management
- c. Assist dzongkhag health sector to come up with emergency and disaster contingency plan

- d. Provide emergency-related direction and advice to the affected sites.
- e. Ensure provision of continuous curative services to both OPD and IPD before, during and aftermath of disaster.
- f. Institute coordination mechanism and mobilize back-up services (human resources, medical supply financial and transportation) to the disaster areas.
- g. Recommend priorities for allocation of resources.
- h. Manage Health Emergency Operating Centre.
- Provide national treatment & management Protocols as per the standard treatment guidelines and Emergency Medical and Trauma Care manuals.
- Delegate authorization to mobilize manpower from the non-affected areas.
- k. Provide skill & capacity development in collaboration with training institutes.
- l. Received early warning system from RCDC, HydroMet De partment and dzongkhag and activate HEOC.
- m. To conduct simulations and mock drills on different types of disasters and emergencies' contingency plans.

4.7 Health Help Center

HHC under EMSD shall have following responsibilities:

- a. Mobilize ambulances to the disaster affected areas and arrange back up ambulance services from nearest unaffected areas.
- b. Timely communication of emergencies and disasters to the nodal agencies.
- c. Provide health advice and counseling through toll free number 112.
- d. Ensure toll free number is functioning at all times.

4.8 Department of Medical Supply and Health Infrastructure

- a. Develop guidelines for mobilization of Medical Supplies (drugs, equipment and transportation).
- b. Ensure availability and timely supply of adequate medical supply
- c. Develop standard for building disaster resilent infrastructure

4.9 Department of Public Health

Public Health emergencies especially those events caused by outbreaks of emerging diseases (SARS, H1N1, H5 N1, H7N9, MeRS-CoV, Ebola, Zika virus) pose serious threat to national and international health security. Effective preparedness can ensure rapid Public Health emergency response and minimize negative health, economic and social impacts of communicable diseases.

In the event of large-scale natural disasters like earthquake, there are probabilities of secondary disaster like disease epidemics. Therefore, Public Health should play lead role in disease prevention and containment through the following responsibilities:

Emergency Preparedness

- a. Conduct communicable disease risk mapping to reduce the risk of diseases
- b. Strengthen early detection of outbreaks of diseases and public health emergencies through event based and indicator surveillances.
- c. Strengthen rapid response to diseases by developing SOPS and guidelines for surveillance, reporting and outbreak response
- d. Build capacity for disease outbreak response in coordination with EMSD, DMS.
- e. Strengthen effective preparedness for responding to disease outbreaks by Mapping out resources for responding to emergencies.
- f. Build sustainable partnerships within and outside the country.

Emergency Response

- a. Coordinate with EMSD to assess the public health risk of the disaster affected area
- b. Prevent communicable diseases & non-communicable conditions in the disaster-affected area.
- c. Mobilize back up resources (financial, human, supplies & equipment).
- d. Guide and coordinate among Public Health Programs in exe cuting the response actions.

4.10 Dzongkhag Health Sector

Preparedness phase

- a. Develop Health Sector Dzongkhag Hazard Maps including hazard mapping in terms of geographical impact of past emergencies, disease epidemiology and mapping of health facilities.
- b. Develop a Dzongkhag Disaster Contingency Plan.
- c. Develop guidelines/instructions for field level support activities.
- d. Establish Emergency Control Room in DHO's office.
- e. Liaise with HHC for ambulance services.
- f. Plan for surge capacity (manpower, resource, etc.).
- g. Plan for financial and logistics mobilization.
- h. Tie-up with nearby hospital for backup services.
- i. Conduct advance emergency transport needs assessment.

Response Phase

- a. Activate Dzongkhag health sector emergency contingency plan.
- b. Coordinate with Dzongkhag Disaster Management Committee.
- c. Emergency Related Reporting & Monitoring of emergency situation.
- d. Assess impact of emergency by Dzongkhag HRRT.
- e. Activate DHRRT to support BHU and community.
- f. Report and monitor emergency situation
- g. Technical Support to BHU and Village level activities through Rapid Response Team

4.11 Hospitals

Preparedness

- a. Conduct hospital vulnerability assessment
- b. Conduct capacity assessment
- c. Maintain supply inventory and storage
- d. Develop Hospital Emergency Contingency plan including security plan and SOP for emergency operation
- e. Establish line of communication
- f. Plan for staffs + stock, mobilization from the nearby Health center

- g. Linked up existing staff, dept. of power, dzongkhag engineering and municipal
- h. Set up Emergency Medical Team Rapid Response Team
- i. Review required logistics
- j. Monitor ongoing emergency response operations
- k. Exercise and mock drill

Response Phase

- a. Activate hospital emergency contingency plan in emergencies and disasters
- b. Monitor utilization of the available resources and prevent conflict of role

c. Activate the hospital control room

- d. Activate selected area or zone to be used for Hospital level classification (triage) and identification (tagging) of casualties prior to their removal to different wards or to other medical care center
- e. Administer medical care including stabilization, hemorrhage control, clearing air passages, and blood transfusion as per triaging system.

4.12 BHUs:

Preparedness Phase

- a. Identify the disaster risk
- b. Develop BHU Emergency Contingency plan including BHU safety level
- c. Build human resource capacity for communities
- d. Request for necessary medical supplies and logistic support
- e. Strengthen the patient referral systems from community BHU to dzongkhag hospitals
- f. Strengthen line of communication with nearest BHUS and hospitals

Response Phase

- a. Immediate notification/ reporting of the event to concern DHO and hospitals
- b. Health needs assessment

- c. Select an area or zone to be used for first-level classification (triage) and identify (tagging) of casualties prior to their transfer to medical care centers
- d. Provide first aid at sites
- e. Transport disaster patients/causlaties to the nearest BHU and hospitals
- f. Identify site for field hospital and establish Incident command post
- g. Coordinate with Search & Rescue, security personnel and other sectors
- h. Mobilize additional resources including community support if required
- i. Verify rumor and report
- j. Establish and conduct active disease surveillance and report the incident to DHO/MoH

CHAPTER 5: COORDINATION, RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND MONITORING

5.1 Coordination and Communication Mechanism

The response operation for disasters type II and III will be directed by NDMA. NDMA will have 24 hours National Emergency Operating Center (NEOC) based in Thimphu. In relation to epidemics, health sector will trace early warnings and take necessary actions through HEOC. HEOC is expected to work in close collaboration with NEOC. In the small-scale disasters or disaster type I, the local authorities will meet the basic needs.

The coordination and channel of communication between the agencies and among the health sector and other relevant partners are given in the figure below:

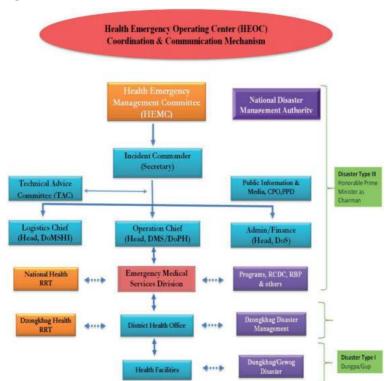


Figure 3: Coordination and Communication Mechanism

5.1.1 Health Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC)

- a. HEOC is a central command, control and coordination center for the effective administration of emergency preparedness and disaster management in any emergency situation.
- b. HEOC will be managed and operated by EMSD under the directives of Health Emergency Management Committee (HEMC) during the times of emergencies and disasters
- c. HEMC shall be highest decision making body for the Health Sector. The Honorable Secretary being the Chairperson of the HEMC will take matter which requires higher intervention to the NDMA.
- d. HEOC will host necessary resources and data for effective co ordination and response during emergencies. During the emergency, the centre will function 24/7 with trained and dedicated staff.
- e. HEOC will be equipped with communication material such as telephone, mobile, internet, satellite phones, etc. In addition, it will consist of all information technology for communicating and coordinating with NEOC, Central Referral Hospitals, Regional hospitals, etc. so that HEOC can update data regularly and coordinate disaster response appropriately.
- f. HEOC will also play a pivotal role in maintaining operational linkages between health sector preparedness and response mechanism and the existing and emerging institutions/mechanisms of community, dzongkhag, regional and the central level disaster risk management initiatives.

5.1.2 Emergency Medical Service Division

- a. At the national level, EMSD shall coordinate with HHC, Dzongkhag Health Sectors, Gewogs, DDM and establish mechanism for network with police, fire, Desuups, volunteers. Similarly, coordination mechanism shall be established at Dzongkhag level by DHO and Gewog level by HA.
- Facilitate establishment of similar facilities at Dzongkhag levels in a phase manner to facilitate appropriate, adequate and timely health sector emergency/disaster response and relief operations.

- c. Assist operation center at different levels for timely flow of information from the disaster-affected areas.
- d. EMSD shall dispatch RRT from national level if the disaster is beyond the coping capacity of the Dzongkhag.
- a. Dzongkhag shall dispatch rapid response team from Dzongkhag level if the disaster is beyond the coping capacity of the Drungkhag or Gewog concerned.

5.1.3 Media focal point

- a. The Chief Planning Officer (CPO), PPD of the ministry shall be the media spokesperson for disaster and emergency at the national level. Media spokesperson shall appoint relevant person to talk on the technical aspect of the emergencies and disasters if required.
- b. DHO shall act as media spokesperson for the Dzongkhag Health Sector.
- c. EMSD shall provide information received through HEOC to CPO from time to time.

5.2 Financial and Resource Mobilization at National Level

- a. NDMA and Ministry of Finance shall ensure adequate financial arrangement to response to health emergencies and disasters as empowered by the DMAB, 2013 (Chapter 8, Section 80-91).
- Based on nature of disaster, relevant department (DoPH/DMS) will prepare budgeted plan and EMSD will put it up to HEMC for fund mobilization from national or international level.
- c. Further, MoH shall:
- Mobilize resources from nearby health facilities as per the approved mechanism and guidelines.
- Assist affected Dzongkhag for additional drugs and supplies.
- Establish mechanism on resource mobilization with national, international and non-governmental organization
- Secure SEARHEF (WHO) budget allocated for disaster and emergency.
- Any kind of materials (in-kind) and financial aid related to health will be taken over by the ministry through DDM with an information to the Government, GNHC, and MoF.

5.3 International Emergency Relief

Any foreign health relief assistance by international organisations or countries will be routed through MoH. International emergency relief should complement, not duplicate the measures taken health sector in the country.

Donors will be informed about what is needed. This is as critical as giving specifications for requirement. Guidelines will be circulated to all the potential suppliers of assistance, diplomatic and consular representatives abroad to prevent ineffective contributions and coordination.

5.4 National Assistance to Disaster Affected Countries Abroad

The ministry shall form a team known as Bhutan Medical Assistance Team (BMAT) to be dispatched to other countries in case of disasters as part of Bhutan's humanitarian initiatives and support. The criteria and terms of reference for selection of health professionals for the BMAT shall be developed accordingly.

5.5 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Plan

Contingency planning is preparation for various disaster/emergency scenarios. The plan document is the key result of the planning process and is living document whose activities should be implemented as a part of emergency preparedness.

SI. No.	Activities	Indicators	Baseline	Target	Frequency	Year	Means of verification	Assumptions
	Hospital contingency	Number of hospitals with	0	27	Annually	2018	Obtain copy	Availabity of money, time
	plan	contingency plan						and commitment
2	Simulation and mock	Number of hospital conducted	11	27	Half	2018	Obtain report	Obtain report Availabity of money, time
	drill	simulation			yearly			and commitment
3	Develop guidelines and	Develop guidelines and Number of guidelines and SOPs	3	All	Annually	2018	Obtain copy	Availabity of money, time
	SOPs							and commitment
4	HR Capacity	Number of health personnel	,	Relevant	Annually	continue	Obtain list	Availabity of money, time
	development	trained on contingency, guidlines,		staff				and commitment
		SOPs and first aid						
5	New disaster resilent	Number of new disaster resilent	0	-	-			Availabity of money, time
	health infrastruture	health facilities						and commitment
9	Hazard mapping	% of Dzongkhag mapped	0	Dzongkhags	Annualy			Availabity of money, time
								and commitment
7	Hospital Vulnerability	% of hospital assessed	2	All	Annually	2020	Obtain report	Obtain report Availabity of money, time
	Assessment			Hospitals				and commitment
∞	Health facilities with	% of hospital with early warning	0	Hospitals/Pr	Annually	2020	Physical	Availabity of money and
	early warning system	system		ograms			inspection	commitment

Table 21: Emergency/Disaster Incident Recording Format

Reccomendations										
Problem Encountered										
Action Taken										
Status of essential drugs										
Hospital/ BHU	OPD Admitted									
Hosp	밂									
	reaks	Cases								
	Disease outbreaks	Death Injured Treated Referred Missing Death Exposed Cases at site								
acted	ä	ng Deat								
rson aff	£	edMiss								
Number of person affected	e Disastı	d Referi								
Nump	lan-mad	Treate at site								
	Natural/Man-made Disaster	Injured								
	Ň	Death								
vents	Place									
ption of	Time/	Date								
Drespoription of Events	Nature									
	Name									
Рор										
D/khag/ Gewog/ Village										

Table 22: Contact numbers of District Health Officers

District health Officer (DHO) shall be responsible to establish Emergency Incident Command System in the districts and at the site during Epidemic and Disasters. Name of the DHO Sl. No **Dzongkhags Contact Numbers** Deki Phuntsho 17673579 1 Mongar Lhuntse Ugyen Dorji 17668719 3 Trashigang Gang Dorji 17666924 4 Trashiyantse Singye Dorji 17812353 **Jigme Kelzang** 17606306 5 Pemagatshel 6 Samdrup Jongkhar Pema Tshewang 17812353 7 Sarpang Tshering Penjor 17919779 8 Chukha **Gopal Hingmang** 17605824 9 **Tsirang** Tashi Dawa 17151676 17608848 10 Paro Choki Wangmo 11 Thimphu Gyembo Dorji 17600582 12 Bumthang Kinga Gyeltshen 17686440 Dolley Tshering 17609954 13 Trongsa 14 Wangdiphodrang Zangmo 77364050 Punakha Dechenmo 17720031 15 77224495 16 Haa Samten 17 Samtse Thinlay Choden 17708958 18 Dagana Dorji Wangchuk 17623121 Tashi Norbu 19 17163783 Gasa 20 Zhemgang Karchung 17652070

^{*}All DHO should update their latest workplace and contact number information annually

Table 23: Incident Report Template (Could be used by VHW or any first responder during response)

Date:	Place of Occurrence:

Name of the first Responder: Designation:

Sl. No.		Actions
1	Situation What has occurred? How many Affected? How many died and injured?	
	What are the sources of the emergency?(contaminated water, rain, broken dam etc)	
2	Response What has been done? By whom?	
3	What are the gaps?	

Table 24: Situation Report Template (to be filled by BHU level - HA/GNM)

Date:	Place of Occurrence

Name of the Reporter: Designation:

Sl. No.		Actions
1	Highlights: What are the main highlights? (# of people dead, missing, injured etc.)	
	Current Situation: Are there any updates on the situation?	
2	Response: What is the main response? Who is responding, and in what area? What are the resources on the ground?	
3	Gaps: What are the main gaps in response? What are the plans to fill the gaps?	
4	Next Steps: What are the next steps envisioned?	

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