



National Strategy for Local Disaster Risk Reduction - Sri Lanka



Disaster Management Centre

April 2022

01. Definitions:

Word	Description
State	Cabinet of Ministers appointed under the Constitution of Sri Lanka
National Disaster Management Council	Established as the Statuary/ Legitimate Council with the powers entrusted by the Sri Lanka National Disaster Management Act No.13 of 2005.
Local Governments	Provincial Councils and Local Authorities.
Local Authority	Municipal Councils, Urban Councils and Pradesheeya Saba.
Wards	Smallest administration unit identified under the Local Government to represent Counselor/s in the respective Local Authority.
All levels	Global, Regional, National, Sub-national, Provincial, and Local Authority
National Level Organizations	Organizations/ Departments, directly responsible for the entire country under their mandate.
National Level Authorities	Organizations/ Institutions, established under a Parliament Act and Perform under a Central Government Ministry
Sub National	Perform at Provincial, District or Divisional level but directly responsible to a National level Ministry, Department, and Authority or similar State level Organization.
Community	Specific group of people, often living in a different geographical area, who share common culture, values and norms in a social structure, which the community has developed over a period.
Hazard	A dangerous phenomenon, substance, human activity or condition that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruptions or environmental damage.
Risks	Potential disaster losses in lives, health status and services which could occur to a particular community or a society over some specified time period.
Residual risks	Risks which have to be addressed at sub-national or local level may be through coordination at a disaster, without any assistance from National or higher level authorities.
Resilience	The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate, adapt, transform, and recover from the effect of a hazard in a timely and effective manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions through risk management.
Disaster	A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or society involving widespread human, material, economic, or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources.
Disaster Risk Management	A systematic process of using administrative directives, organizations and operational risks and capacities to implement strategies, policies and improved coping capacities in order to lessen adverse impacts of hazards and possibility of disaster.
Mainstreaming DRR	An extensive and sound integration of DRR into sectoral development initiatives at all levels to enhance resilience, reduce loss and speed-up the progress towards development of all localities, strategies, policies, plans, implementations, etc.
Inclusion	A rights-based approach to community programming, aiming to ensure that all people have equal access to basic services and a voice in the development and implementation or "Leave no one behind".
Early Warning	The set of capacities needed to generate and disseminate timely and meaningful warning information to enable individuals, communities and organizations threatened by a hazard to prepare and to act appropriately and in sufficient time to reduce the possibility of harm or loss.
Mitigation	Structural and non-structural measures undertaken to limit the adverse impact of natural and man-made hazards including environmental degradation and technological hazards.
Preparedness	The knowledge and capacities developed by governments, professional response and recovery organizations, communities and individuals to effectively anticipate, respond to, and recover from, the impacts of likely, imminent or current hazard events or conditions.

02. Introduction:

The “Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), 2015-2030” was the first major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda and provides Member States with concrete actions to protect development gains from the risk of disasters. The Sendai Framework is considered as the platform to perform even other 2030 Agenda Agreements, including “Sustainable Development Goals, 2015-2030 and “Paris Agreement 2015-2030 on Climate Change”. This SFDRR was endorsed by the UN General Assembly following the 2015 Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR), and advocates for: ***The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.***

It recognizes that the State has the primary responsibility to reduce disaster risks, which should be shared with other stakeholder institutions, including local government. As in SFDRR Target five, all countries should have “National and Local Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies”, by 2020. To address the “Goal” of SFDRR, all countries are supposed to achieve its “Seven (07) Global Targets” giving precedence to its “Four (04) Priorities”, adhering to “Thirteen (13) Universal Guiding Principles” of SFDRR, as appropriate. (Refer Annex 01).

After “Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004”, the Government of Sri Lanka had established a Parliamentary Select-committee to review on Policy related documents to streamline Disaster Management in the country and the Committee recommended the “National Disaster Management Act, No 13 of 2005” in May 2005. This Act, provide the provisions to establish the “National Council for the Disaster Management”; the Disaster Management Center; the appointment of Technical Advisory Committees; the Preparation of Disaster Management Plans; the “Declaration of a State of Disaster”; which enable, development of National Strategies and coordination mechanisms

The “Preparation of Local DRR Strategy” was initiated by the Ministry of Disaster Management jointly with the Disaster Management Center to comply with “Target 05” of the Sendai Framework 2015-2030, in 2019, which was supported by JICA. As the first step of this process, two “Pradesiya Saba” were selected to develop Local DRR Plans namely of Bulathsinhala PS, in Katutura District, Western Province and Ayagama PS in Rathnapura District, Sabaragamuwa Province. Based on the outcomes of the above processes and plans, steps were taken to introduce this Local DRR Strategy by the Disaster Management Center.

With this “Strategy”, Local institutional framework will be introduced to coordinate with National and Sub-national institutions to work collaboratively with a good understanding to address DRR Initiatives identified at National/Local Levels. Comprehensive monitoring mechanism is proposed, complying provisions given by the Constitution of Sri Lanka and all relevant laws and regulations, derived thereby to support and optimize their effectiveness to address DRR jointly with National and Local Levels. This will enable to perform Sendai Framework for DRR, adhering to all “13 Guiding Principles” identified under SFDRR and further Strengthen Local-National-Regional and Global coordinations to address DRR effectively.

03. Scope and Purpose:

This “Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy” is in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and is applicable to all types of risks, embrace small-scale and large scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters, caused by natural or manmade hazards as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks which may affect Local areas in particular and could be effectively addressed as a participatory approach with Local level interventions.

It aims to guide the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in development at all levels as well as within and across all sectors.

04. Expected Outcome:

By embedding DRR to all Local level Development Plans, it is expected to reduce disaster risks substantially and hence, losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses and communities, which will improve the National Level Resilience, in general.

05. Expected Goals:

Prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience at all levels.

06. Targets:

01. Substantially reduce disaster mortality by 2030.
02. Substantially reduce number of affected people by 2030.
03. Reduce direct disaster economic losses in relation to National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2030.
04. Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health, transport and educational facilities, through developing their resilience by 2030.
05. Substantially increase the number of Local Authorities adopting Local DRR Plans with the maximum interventions at all levels as per the Local DRR Strategy.
06. Substantially enhance cooperation from the National Government to Local Governments through adequate and sustainable supports to complement their Local level actions for the implementation of this “Strategy”, by 2030.
07. Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi hazard early warning systems, disaster risk information and assessments to people, through this participatory approach by 2030.

07. Priorities for Action:

01. Understanding disaster risk:

Disaster risk management needs to be based on an understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions of hazard characteristics, vulnerability, capacity, exposure of persons, assets, and the environment at respective Local levels.

02. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk:

Disaster risk governance at Provincial and National level is vital to the management of disaster risk reduction in all sectors and, ensuring the coherence of national and local frame works of written laws, regulations and public policies, that by defining roles and responsibilities, guide, encourage incentivize the public and private sectors to take action and address disaster risks at respective Local levels.

03. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience:

Public and private investment in disaster risk prevention and reduction through structural and non-structural measures at all levels are essential to enhance the economic, social, health and cultural resilience of persons, communities and their assets, as well as the environment. These can be drivers of innovation, growth and job creation. Such measures are cost effective and instrumental to save lives, prevent and reduce losses and ensure efficient and effective recovery and rehabilitation at respective Local levels.

04. Continual enhancements in disaster management systems for effective response through a “Build Back Better” process:

Experience indicates that through continual improvement of disaster preparedness/readiness through structural and non-structural measures needs to be strengthened for more effective response in general and ensure capacities are in place for effective response and recovery. Disasters have also demonstrated that the recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, which needs to be prepared ahead of a disaster, is an opportunity to “Build Back Better” through integrating disaster risk reduction measures. Women and persons with disabilities should be publicly lead and promote gender-equitable and universally accessible approaches especially during the response and reconstruction phases.

08. Guiding Principles:

01. Primary responsibility of “State” to prevent and reduce disaster risks, including through cooperation:

Refers that the Cabinet of Ministers of the National Government has the primary responsibility to prevent and reduce disaster risk including through national, international, regional, sub-regional, trans-boundary, bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation and hence reduction of disaster is a common concern for all government and government own institutions to effectively enhance and implement national disaster risk reduction policies, strategies and measures in the context of their respective circumstances and capabilities, can be further enhance through the provision of sustainable cooperation.

02. Shared responsibility between Central Government and National Level Authorities, Sectors, and Stakeholders as appropriate to National level circumstances:

Refers that disaster risk reduction requires that the responsibilities be shared by the National Government and their national level Authorities, Boards, Sectors and Stakeholders as appropriate to the national circumstance and systems of Governance.

03. Protection of persons and their assets while promoting and protecting all human rights including the right to development.

Refers protecting persons and their property, health, livelihoods, and productive assets as well as cultural and environmental assets, complying written law of the country with no discrimination.

04. Engagement from all of society.

Disaster risk reduction requires an all-of-society engagement and partnership. It also requires empowerment and inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory participation, paying special attention to people disproportionately affected by disasters, especially the poorest. A gender, age, disability and cultural perspective should be integrated in all programs and practices focusing “Leave no one behind”, considering special attention to the improvement of organized voluntary of work of people.

05. Full engagement of all State institutions of an executive and legislative nature at local, sub-national and national levels.

Disaster risk reduction and management depends on coordination mechanisms within and across sectors and with relevant stakeholders at all levels, and it requires the full engagement of all levels, and it requires the full engagement of all State institutions of an executive and legislative nature at national and at Local levels and a clear articulation of responsibilities across public and private stakeholders including business and academia to ensure mutual outreach, partnerships, complementarity in role of accountability and follow-up.

06. Empowering of Local Governments and communities through resources, incentives and decision-making responsibilities as appropriate.

Refers respecting National Government’s role of enabling, guiding and coordinating powers remains essential, empower Provincial Councils, Local Authorities and Local Communities to reduce disaster risks including through resources, incentives and decision making responsibilities, as appropriate.

07. Decision-making to be inclusive and risk informed while using a multi-Hazard approach.

Disaster risk reduction requires a multi-hazard approach and inclusive risk-informed decision-making based on the open exchange and dissemination of disaggregated data, including by sex, age and disability, as well as on easily accessible, up-to-date, comprehensible, science-based, non-sensitive risk information, complemented by traditional knowledge.

08. Consider the coherence of disaster risk reduction and sustainable development policies, plans, practices and mechanism, across different sectors.

Disaster Risk Reduction is essential to achieve sustainable development. Therefore, development, strengthening and implementation of relevant policies, plans practices and

mechanisms need to address the coherence, as appropriate, across sustainable development and growth, food and water security, health and safety, economic and environment, climate change and variability, etc.

09. Accounting of local and specific characteristics of disaster risks when determining measures to reduce risk.

Drivers of disaster risk may be local, sub-national, national, regional and global in scope. Disaster risks have local and specific characteristics that must be understood for the determination of measures to reduce disaster risk.

10. Addressing underlying risk factors cost-effectively through investment versus relying primarily on post-disaster response and recovery.

This refers to addressing underlying disaster risk factors through risk-informed public and private investments is more cost effective than primary reliance on post disaster response and recovery, and contributes to Sustainable Development.

11. “Build Back Better” for preventing the creation of and reducing existing disaster risk.

In the post-disaster recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, it is critical to prevent the creation of and to reduce disaster risk by “Build back better” and increasing public education and awareness of disaster risk.

12. The quality of National partnerships and cooperation to be effective, meaningful and strong.

Refers to an effective and meaningful partnership and further strengthening of national level cooperation to local level, including the fulfilment of respective commitments of official development assistance by the National Government is essential for effective disaster risk management at Local levels.

13. Support from National Government and Partners to Local Governments to be prioritized/ tailored, according to needs and priorities, identified by them.

All Provincial Councils/Local Authorities in particular least developed Provinces and Local Authorities facing specific disaster risk challenges, need adequate, sustainable and timely provision of support, including through finance, technology transfer and capacity building from National Government and partners to be tailored to their needs and priorities, as identified by them.

09. Eight (8) Steps for developing Local DRR Plans

“8 – Steps” is identified as the practical and feasible method to develop Local Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Strategies/ Plans which enable leaders and planners at all levels to support and also monitor the progress of such Strategies/ Plans

Step 01: Collecting local hazard information

- 1) Refer to hazard information prepared by national or higher authorities.
- 2) In case of insufficient hazard information, utilize historical disaster records instead, for efficiency in terms of time and budget.

<Key Questions>

- What types of hazards may exist?*
- Where are these hazards located?*

Step 02: Understanding local disaster risks

- 1) Recognize existing risks and possible future risks which hinder development.
- 2) Identify and prioritize risks which has large scale impact.
- 3) Focus on reducing the prioritized risks until 2020 and the other risks after 2020.

<Key Questions>

- Which areas are under risk, and why?*
- Which areas might face risk in the future, and why?*
- Which type of disaster is high in risk?*
- What are the contents and progress of the city development plan?*
- Where do people live?*
- Which are the critical infrastructures and basic services facilities, and where are they located?*

Step 03: Confirming DRR Plans by national and other authorities

- 1) Refer to urban plans and DSRR plans developed by national governments, and confirm the main structural measures in each disaster types.

<Key Questions>

- Are there any on-going projects to reduce the identified risk areas?*
- Are there any plan for projects in near future to reduce the identified risk areas?*
- Who are the concerned organizations for DRR?*

Step 04: Identifying residual risks considering time-series

- 1) Study implementation schedule of structural measures, because the measures take time to complete and show effectiveness in protecting risks.
- 2) Identify the change in residual risks corresponding to time-series.

<Key Questions>

- Which risks are to be reduced after completion of on-going and planned projects?
- How long will it take for those all projects to be completed?
- What are the remaining risks?

Step 05: Listing all necessary DRR measures by Local Governments

- 1) List all necessary measures including both structural and non-structural measures to reduce residual risks.
- 2) Refer other related plans such as land use developed by local governments, then to compile into a local DRR plan.

<Key Questions>

- What kinds of measures will contribute to reduce risks?
- Are those measures categorized as short-term, midterm or long-term?
- Which level of the government can take case of those measures?

Step 06: Prioritizing DRR measures

- 1) Develop a shortlist to reduce residual risks in consideration of feasibility, cost-effectiveness, financial resources, etc.
- 2) Seek the best balance of structural and non-structural measures.
- 3) Obtain consensus with stakeholders and government endorsement of the developed plans.

<Key Questions>

- Which measure is the most critical to reduce residual risks?
- Which are the next critical measures to reduce risks?
- How can these measures be actually implemented?

Step 07: Arranging budget allocation in necessary levels

- 1) Identify responsible organization to bear the expenses of implementation. In case of lack of budget, actions are necessary to seek for internal or external funds.

<Key Questions>

- Who are the concerned organizations?
- How should the concerned organizations share the expenses?
- What is the negotiation procedure among concerned organizations? (e.g. participate in councils to obtain approval by leaders, communicate with treasury, submit proposals to donors, etc.)

Step 08. Implementing DRR measures and reviewing periodically

- 1) Periodically review and revise the plans including hazard information and national DRR plans, to adapt to changes in the situation

<Key Questions>

- What are the roles and responsibilities of each organization in implementation?*
- How often should the plan be reviewed?*
- Which items should be reviewed? (E.g. hazard info, National DRR plans, land use, and etc.)*
- What will be the procedure for revision?*

10. Implementation and Administration Strategy of Local DRR Plans:

This Implementation Structure is proposed to engage/encourage all state level officials to empower Local Authorities and communities through resources and decision making responsibilities, as appropriate and risks are informed using multi hazard approach adhering to “Guiding Principles” and “Priorities” identified under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk reduction, 2015- 2030.

Accordingly, Five (05) “Functioning Groups” have been identified to work at three strategic levels namely National, District and Local Government Levels, for the execution of Local DRR Plans derived under this “Strategy” and their responsibility/accountability could be defined as follows:

- (1). National Level : Take Strategic level decisions and should directly work with Disaster Management Centre. Responsible to report the progress to the National Disaster Management Council.
- (2). Provincial Level : Responsible for overall monitoring and supporting for the execution of activities identified at local Level and take-up critical/ major issues at the National Level Committee and also at the National Disaster Management Council, if needed.
- (3). District Level : Should be liaise with District Disaster Management Unit of DMC. Responsible for Coordinating National, Sub-national and Provincial level institutions to address District level issues identified under Local DRR Plans and take-up critical/major issues identified at the District Development Committee, if needed.
- (4). Local Authority Level: Divisional Secretaries, on behalf of the State are supposed to coordinate this level with respective Local Authority and other Sub-national and Provincial level Institutions working in the respective Local Authority area to identify residual-risks of different hazards at Local level and address the needs and priorities identified under Local DRR Plans and also take-up issues identified, at the Divisional Development Committee. “Standing Committee” at Local Authority (Council) level to be formed to obtain more powers for the execution of their Plan.

- (5). Ward Level : Respective Ward Member and Grama Niladarie/s along with other officials and Community Leaders are supposed to work together as a “Ward Level Working Sub-Committee” to feed information on “Identified Risks” within their area in more precise and accurate manner to the “Local Level Working Committee” and also perform to reduce disaster risks with the guidance of the Local Level Working Committee in the area of their jurisdiction.

10.1: “Committee” formations for the implementation of the Strategy at Local Level:

(1). Ward / GN level Working Sub-Committee

Purpose:

Understanding disaster risks at a very high resolution with respect to all hazards that may be identified at National level, with competent agencies and volunteers, perform at Local Authority level and take remedies which they can take by themselves and also identify community level risks at a high resolution and feed it to Local Authority / Divisional Secretary level Working Committee to take appropriate actions.

Criteria/Conditions:

- Ward area to be considered as the area of interest.
- Initiate as a Voluntary Mechanism.
- Maximum No. of members to be maintained as 20, if possible.
- Minimum of 12 meetings (once a month) per annum.
- Meeting expenses to be borne by themselves or may be shared with the respective LA.
- Divisional Secretary appoint the Committee members with the consultation of the Mayor/Chairman of Local Authorities.

Composition of the Committee:

- Ward Member - Chairman
- Nominated members by the LA
- Grama Niladarie/s
- Samurdi Niladarie/s
- Economic Development Officer/s
- Chief Monk; School Principal; Any such volunteer as a Resource person to the committee.
- CBO/CSO officers, if any.
- Secretary, convener – NDRSC officer of the respective DS office or any other committee member nominated by the committee.

The Committee Responsibilities:

- Identify any risk or impending disaster/s in advance.
- Consider Local and/or National level programs implement in the area, which can address or aggravate risks.
- Consider/organize DRR measures to reduce risks with the resources available or obtain assistance from LA or Divisional Secretary or any other donor, if needed.
- Response for any disaster/s, if happen.
- Should be performed as a sub-committee of LA/Div. level Working Committee.
- All Major DRR related problems, unsolved issues and development needs should be identified and forwarded to Divisional Working Committee for a permanent solution.
- Follow up all the actions above for building resilience of the area

(2). Local Authority / Divisional Secretary Level Working Committee:**Purpose:**

Understanding disaster risks at a high resolution with respect to all hazards that may be identified at National level or with competent agencies and volunteers perform at Local Authority level and also attend risk areas identified by **Ward / GN level Working Committees**, and take actions/remedies which the committee can take by themselves to address DRR while addressing Guiding Principles, Targets, and Priorities and also “08-Steps” Guide to address local DRR mentioned above. If the action is beyond their limits, forward it to the respective District and/or Provincial Council for necessary action. “Standing Committees” will be formed at Council (LA) level to facilitate the execution of this Plan.

Criteria/Conditions:

- LA area to be considered as the area of interest.
- Dis. Sec. with the consultation of CLG/ ACLG to nominate members of the Committee
- Maximum number of members are to be maintained as 50; if possible
- Meeting to be conducted Minimum once a month.
- Meeting expenses to be borne by the respective LA.

Composition:

- LA Chairman or Mayor – As the Chairman.
- Divisional secretary / Secretaries –Co-chair
- Commissioner /Secretary of the LA – As the Secretary
- Deputy Mayor/Chairman.

- 05 members including the Opposition Leader of the LA nominated by the Chairman / Mayor with the consent of the Council. Other members can participate with a prior notice as and when required.
- 01 (Max. 02) PC member/s nominated by the Chief Minister of the Province, preferably representing the area of concern.
- DMC Officer from DDMCU
- OIC – Police
- MOH – Health Department
- Community Development Officer of the ACLG Office
- CPHI
- Divisional Officer – Agrarian Services
- Zonal Director Education
- NDRSC Officer
- Samurdhi Manager
- All Grama Niladaries (as required)
- Officer from CEA
- Officer from UDA
- Officer from CEB
- Officer from RDA / PRDA
- Officer from Telecommunication
- Officer from Irrigation Department
- Chairman – Cooperative society
- Military Establishments
- Agrarian Development Officer
- Member representing Chamber of Commerce
- Maintain 05 members representing NGOs, INGOs, CBOs working in the area, if possible.
- Ex: Red cross, St. John's etc...
- Other Officers may include:
 - Officer from CCD
 - Officers from Fisheries Department/Inland Fisheries
 - Officer from NBRO
 - Officer from GSMB
 - Officer from Forest Department
 - Officer from Timber Cooperation
 - Officer from Wildlife Department
 - Estate Representatives

The Committee responsibility:

- Preparation, implementation, updating and compliance/performance monitoring of the DRR plan
- Decisions to be reported to ACLG and District Secretary.
- Identify any risks or impending disasters within their area of jurisdiction, in advance.
- Consider Local and/or National level programs implement in the area, which can address or aggravate risks.
- Consider/organize DRR measures to reduce risks with the resource available and obtain assistance from Provincial Council or District Secretary or any other donor agency, if needed.
- Response for any disasters align with existing ICS (including Early Warning mechanism) with available resources as planned, if happen.
- The committee should be performed as a Sub-Committee of the District Level Steering Committee and regular performance to be forwarded to their perusal.
- Use DMC guidelines for the development/improvement of DRR plans and obtain technical assistance from DMC in this regards, as and when required.
- Discuss outcomes at Divisional Coordinating Committee at a regular basis.
- All Major DRR related problems, unsolved issues should be forwarded to Divisional Coordinating Committee for a permanent solution.
- Any action which cannot be addressed with the available resources at Local Authority/Divisional Secretariat Level, to be informed to the DDMCU and/or District Level Steering Committee to obtain assistance from higher level.

(3). District Level Steering Committee**Purpose:**

Understanding disaster risks at a high resolution with respect to all hazards that may be identified at National level or with competent agencies and volunteers perform at District level and also attend risks identified by LA/ Div. Sec. level Working Committees and take actions/remedies which they can take by themselves while addressing Guiding Principles, Targets, and Priorities and also “08-Steps” Guide to address local DRR mentioned above. If the action is beyond their limits of District or Provincial Administration, forward it to the National Level Strategic Committee to obtain National or higher level assistance.

Criteria/ Conditions:

- District area to be considered as the area of interest.
- Governor of the Province to appoint members of the Committee
- Maximum number of members are to be maintained as 45, if possible (other than Divisional Secretaries)
- Meeting to be conducted Minimum once in two months.
- Meeting expenses should be borne by the District Secretary or by DMC.

Composition:

- DCC Chairman, Chairman of the committee
- District Secretary - Secretary
- Deputy Chief Secretary (Planning)
- Convener- AD – DDMCU
- ACLG
- District Planning Director
- District NDRSC Officer
- All Divisional Secretaries
- DIG/SSP – Police
- Brigade commander and Military Officer/s – Representing Military Camps of the Districts
- PDHS or RDSH Health Department
- District Chief Engineer – Electricity Board
- District Chief Engineer – Water Board
- District CEA Officer
- District Chief Engineer/s – Irrigation Department and Provincial Irrigation
- District / Agrarian Commissioner – Agrarian department
- Chief Fireman/OIC
- MET Department Officer representing Met Monitoring Office
- District Chief Officer – NBRO, if appropriate
- District Chief Engineer – Telecommunication
- District Chief of Coastal Conservation, if appropriate
- Chief Engineer/s, RDA / PRDA
- District Director UDA
- Director (Land Use Planning)
- District Officer, Department of Survey General
- Member representing Chamber of Commerce
- Maintain 07 members representing NGOs, INGOs, CBOs working in the area, if possible. Ex: Red cross, St. John's etc...

- Other Officers may include:
 - District Forest Officer
 - District Director and Provincial Director (Education)
 - District in charge of Fisheries/inland fisheries
 - District officer CCD
 - District Officer CSD
 - District Manager MEPA
 - District Officer GSMB
 - District Officer Department of Wildlife
 - District Officer, Department of Samurdhi
 - Commissioner Cooperative Development etc.

The Committee responsibility:

- Decisions/actions to be reported to the Head of the implementing Agencies and DMC.
- Identify any risks or impending disasters within their area of jurisdiction, in advance.
- Consider Local and/or National level programs implement in the area, which can address or aggravate risks.
- Ensure DRR mainstreaming to reduce residual risks with the resource available and obtain assistance from Provincial Council, National, Sub-National-level Institutions or any donor agency, if needed.
- Response for any disasters align with existing ICS with available resources as planned, if happen.
- Discuss outcomes at District Development Committee at a regular basis.
- Should be performed as a Sub-Committee of the National Level Strategic Committee.
- The committee should initiate to prepare a District DRR Plan considering LDRR Plans with the technical assistance from DMC.
- All Major DRR related problems, unsolved issues should be forwarded to DDC for permanent solution.
- Any action which cannot be addressed with the available resources at District and Provincial level, to be informed to the DMC and/or National-level Strategic Committee to obtain assistance from National or higher level.

(4). Provincial Monitoring Committee

Purpose:

Understanding disaster risks at a high resolution with respect to all hazards that may be identified at National level or with competent agencies and volunteers perform at Provincial level and also attend risk areas identified by **District Level Steering Committee** and help and monitor all remedies/activities taken at Local and District levels while addressing Guiding Principles, Targets, and Priorities and also “08-Steps” Guide to address local DRR mentioned above. If the action is beyond their limits of District or Provincial Administration, forward it to the National Level Strategic Committee or can be taken-up at National Disaster Management Council, depending on the magnitude of the risk to obtain National or higher level assistance.

Criteria/ Conditions:

- Provincial Area to be considered as the area of interest.
- HE the President to appoint the Governor as the Chairman of the Committee.
- Governor Office of the Province to appoint the other members of the Committee
- Maximum number of members are to be maintained as 35, if possible (other than Local Authority Mayors/ Chairmen’s)
- Meeting to be conducted Minimum once in three months.
- Meeting expenses should be borne by the Provincial Council.

Committee should be comprised.

- Governor of the Province – Chairman of the Committee
- Cabinet Minister/s of the Central Government elected by the Province.
- Chief Minister and other 04 Ministers of the Province
- Chief Secretary – Secretary of the Committee
- Provincial Secretaries of Provincial Ministries
- All District Secretaries
- Deputy Chief Secretary – Planning
- Deputy Chief Secretary – Finance
- Deputy Chief Secretary – Engineering
- CLG
- SDIG – Police
- Provincial Cooperative Commissioner
- Provincial Director – CEA
- Provincial Director – UDA
- DDMCU ADs of the Province
- Provincial Director of the Agriculture

- Provincial Director Social Services
- Provincial Director – Health
- Provincial Director – RDA
- Provincial Director – Survey Department
- Provincial Director – Irrigation
- Division Commander (Army)/Area Commander NAVI/Base Commander Air Force, representing Tri-Forces
- DGM Water Board/ Electricity Board/Water Resources Board/Telecommunication
- **DFO/ AD-Wild life**
- Other appropriate senior level officers representing different sectors working in the Province including National and Sub-National level can be invited as and when required.

The Committee responsibility:

- Decision/actions taken to be reported to DMC Head office and National Level Oversight Committee.
- Support/assist Local Authorities and District Secretaries for the implementation of DRR Plans, identified by them.
- Consider Local and/or National level programs implement in the area, which can be addressed or aggravated risks and to be informed the relevant agencies to attend.
- Residual Risk which can be addressed by Provincial level should be identified and attended with a sustainable financing and administrative mechanism with all relevant stakeholders of the Province.
- Response for any disasters with available resources through coordination, or obtain assistance from the State Government, if required.

(5). National Level Oversight Committee:

Purpose:

Monitor and review performance of the Program with respect to complying with Disaster Management Act, Sendai Framework and other Rules and Regulations of the country and liaise with National Disaster Management Council and Disaster Management Center for the effective mobilization of Local Governments to ascertain the National Safety and Security of the Country.

Criteria/ Conditions:

- HE the President of the Country to appoint members of the Committee as the Chairman of the National Disaster Management Council.
- Meeting to be conducted once in three (03) months.
- Meeting expenses should be borne by the Disaster Management Center.

Composition

- Secretary Disaster Management- (Chairman),
- Director General DMC- (Secretary),
- Secretary to the Treasury, Ministry of Finance,
- Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs,
- Secretary, Ministry of Local Government,
- Secretary Ministry of Irrigation,
- Secretary, Ministry of Health,
- Secretary, Ministry of Environment,
- Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture,
- Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
- Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology,
- Secretary, Finance Commission,
- Governor of the Central Bank,
- Director General, National Planning,
- Director General, Urban Development Authority,
- Chief Secretaries of the nine (09) Provinces,
- District Secretaries of all 25 Districts,
- And any other Senior Official nominated as and when necessary or requested,

Responsibility:

- Identify major requirements needed to be strengthened Local DRR Strategy/ Mechanism and make recommendations to the National Disaster Management Council for the implementation.
- Liaise with National Disaster Management Council and the Disaster Management Center to practically implement Disaster Management Act, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, Sustainable Development Goal 2015-2030, Paris Agreement 2015-2030 on Climate Change for the effective mobilization of Local Governments to address Disaster Risk Reduction in the country as a whole.

11.Data and Information Sharing Strategy:

Under the Sendai Framework, identification of risk is the first Priority, which need accurate and quality data and information at all levels. At present, there is no proper platform available with risk information and data with the state-of-the-art-technology for collection of online information as well as prompt mechanisms to disseminate and/ or make available information to the parties interested. This is identified as a responsibility of the Central Government.

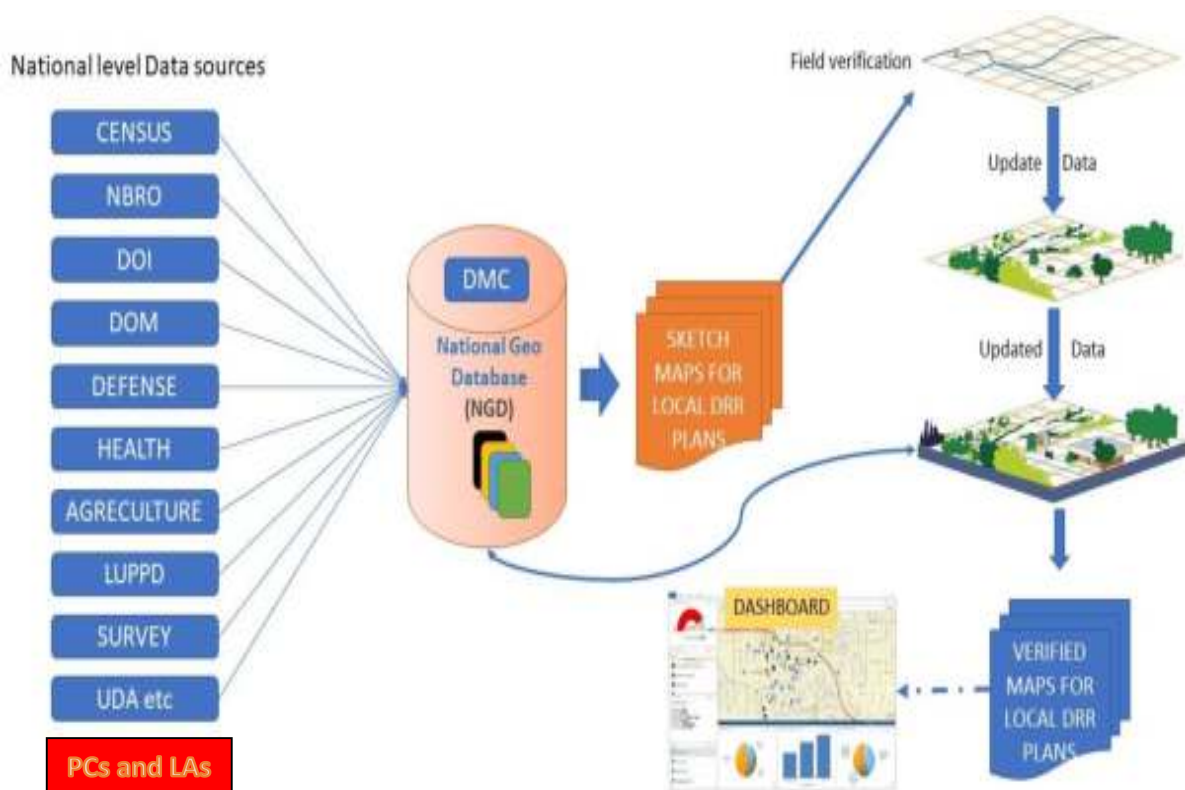
In addition, “Eight (08) Steps” identified for developing Local DRR Plans under the implementation of Sendai Framework, data and information available at local level is very much essential for the smooth functioning of all “Eight Steps”. The correct information and data are also very much important to monitor the progress of implementation and economic losses or gains, if any.

a) Process

DMC will be equipped with “Data Lab”, which will be able to handle risk-based data including Big-Data and information with the state-of-the-art-technology. Primary focus of National Geo Database is to create infrastructure and solutions that will enable spatial data standardization, avoid data duplication, improve data quality, improve transparency in data sharing across departments and provide a technology platform for developing spatial data decision support tools for Disaster Risk Reduction. Also, NGD creates an ecosystem where central government’ local government and private sector organizations can collaborate to manage, improve and exchange spatial data and information.

NGD will provide access to spatially referenced data to all levels of government, the private sector, nonprofit organizations, academia and the community for effective evidence-based decision making. This information will facilitate natural resource monitoring, disaster preparedness, awareness, mitigation, management of public infrastructures, national projects which will reduce the risk at all levels, for the betterment of the community.

b) The Strategic Framework



This strategy presents a forward-looking framework that is user centric, accommodates individual and organizational differences and promotes efficient and cost effective sustainable data and information management practices. At the same time, it contains those elements of integrity, security and transparency that are vital to a comprehensive data infrastructure.

This Strategic Framework comprise;

- a. Data lab for handling risk base data and information,
- b. Metadata directory for confidential Data,
- c. Mechanism for sharing Data and Risk information made available for interested parties at all levels,
- d. Mechanisms to Guide the governance, policy development, standards, research programs and the design of future systems.

Accordingly, four (04) stages have been identified to strengthen decision making and innovation using information technologies for DRR.

Strategies of Government of Sri Lanka	Risk Information - A Strategic enabler
Comply Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction at all levels (SFDRR)	Utilize risk information to develop, countries disaster risk reduction strategies, make use risk information for policy decisions and allocate resources to prevent new disaster risks.
National Disaster Management Plan of Sri Lanka	Supports risk information sharing, research and effective planning that is required for enhanced disaster risk reduction capabilities of climate change adaptation and mitigation.
Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)	Integrated risk information from across the government sector for the implementation of 17 SDG target and monitor the progress at all levels
The Paris Agreement (Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation)	Provides an integrated approach to national planning and development through visualization and dissemination of climate change information/ risks for the government and broader community.

12. Early Warning and Incident Coordinating Strategy:

As per the Target 07 of this “Strategy”, it is a responsibility of DMC to develop inclusive mechanisms to substantially increase the availability of and assess to Multi Hazard Early Warning Systems, disaster risk information and assessments to community level. Accordingly, this strategy was developed complying DRR framework of the country aligning with the National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP), National Emergency Operation Plan (NEOP) and other Institutional Disaster Management Plans (IDMPs). This also complies with all standards and disciplines applicable for all hazards/risks and impending hazards/risks. In general, the early warning and incident coordinating strategic plan has the “Incident Commanding Flow” and “Coordination Mechanisms from National to Local Level”, to reach all vulnerable communities. In specific, this nationally accepted “Incident Commanding System” will complying all Global Standards, including human rights and development rights of people, during Emergency operations and coordination.

Proposed “Strategy” may cordially utilize the Central administrative system and Local Level administrative systems to achieve the early warning and incident management through this organizational structure to address the complexities and demands of single or multiple incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. Identified responsibilities and authorities shall be taken to minimize mortality, affected people, economic losses, and damage to critical infrastructure by implementing and decision making in the early warning and emergency coordination in this Strategic Plan.

Early Warning and Incident Coordinating Strategic Plans to be developed based on the National Emergency Operation Plan (NEOP), covers all communication, coordination and cooperation mechanisms. (Ref: NEOP Chpter2, 2.3 Emergency Response Process.) The “Early Warning” and “Incident Coordinating Strategic Plans” are consented by the Disaster Management Council and provisions will be allocated to function with Local Authorities with the Central Administrative System.

Strict directions and guidance will be followed from National level to Sub National levels, while inculcating political leadership, harmonizing the identified Implementation and Administration Strategy of local DRR Plans (GN level Working Sub Committees, Local Authority/Division Secretary, level Working Committee, District Level Steering Committee, Provincial Monitoring Committee, National level Oversight committee). The respective Local Authority (Municipal Councils, Urban Council or Pradeshiya Saba) shall mutually share their resource with other supporting institutions working at Local Authority level. Mode of response to disasters will be depending on the severity of the event. Provincial/District EOCs will coordinate and respond in local events. The National EOC will take necessary steps to optimize assistance from National, Regional and Global assistance to local level EOCs depending on this severity of the disaster, if it is beyond their capacities.

If a disaster occurs at District level, District Disaster Management Coordinating Unit (DDMCU) and the respective District Secretary will play a lead role within their area of jurisdiction with their all district level stakeholders and Provincial Institutions, and District Secretary will perform as the Incident Commander. The DDMCUs also interact with both National and Local early warning media mechanisms for timely dissemination of information to vulnerable communities and to respond and coordinate all relevant agencies. At the GN level, the Grama Niladari plays a complementary role interacting with the GN level DM Committee and sub-committees respond to disasters and obtain direct support to vulnerable communities. The governor shall provide guidance and directives to the Provincial Chief Secretary and pass that message to the lower hierarchy level at their earliest. Also Provincial Chief Secretary shall provide guidance directives and relevant supports which can be offered from Provincial/Local Administration to the District Secretary and are shown in the flow chart below.

The following flow chart illustrates the incident commanding flow and coordination mechanism from National to Local level.

Early Warning and Incident Coordinating Strategy Diagram for Implementing Local DRR System in Sri Lanka

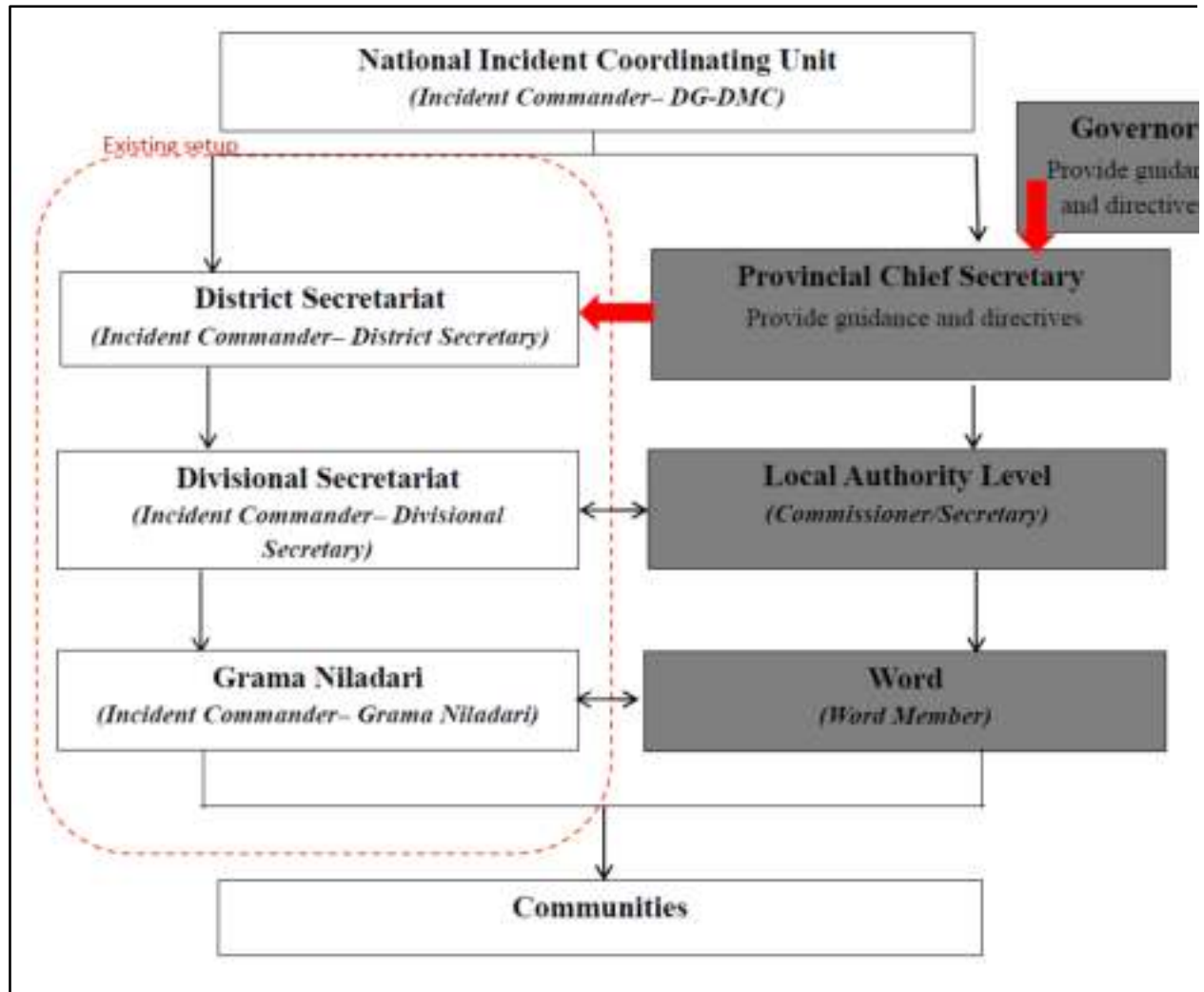


Chart of the Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Sri Lanka *In line with the Sendai Framework for 2015-2030*

Scope and purpose

This "Local Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy" is in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and is applicable to all types of risks, embrace small-scale and large scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters, caused by natural or man-made hazards as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks which may affect Local areas in particular and could be effectively addressed as a participatory approach with Local level interventions. It aims to guide the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in development at all levels as well as within and across all sectors.

Expected outcome

By embedding DRR to all Local level Development Plans, it is expected to reduce disaster risks substantially and hence, losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses and communities, which will improve the National Level Resilience, in general.

Goal

Prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience at all levels.

Targets

Substantially reduce disaster mortality by 2030.	Substantially reduce number of affected people by 2030.	Reduce direct disaster economic losses in relation to National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2030.	Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health, transport and educational facilities, through developing their resilience by 2030.	Substantially increase the number of Local Authorities adopting Local DRR Plans with the maximum interventions at all levels as per the Local DRR Strategy.	Substantially enhance cooperation from the National Government to Local Governments through adequate and sustainable supports to complement their Local level actions for the implementation of this "Strategy" by 2030.	Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems, disaster risk information and assessments to people, through this participatory approach by 2030.
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Priorities for Action

There is a need for focused action within and across sectors by States at local, national, regional and global levels in the following four priority areas.

Priority 01 Undersstanding disaster risk

Disaster risk management needs to be based on an understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions of hazard characteristics, vulnerability, capacity, exposure of persons, assets, and the environment at respective Local levels.

Priority 02 Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

Disaster risk governance at Provincial and National level is vital to the management of disaster risk reduction in all sectors and ensuring the coherence of national and local frame works of written laws, regulations and public policies, that by defining roles and responsibilities, guide, encourage incentivize the public and private sectors to take action and address disaster risks at respective Local levels.

Priority 03 Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

Public and private investment in disaster risk prevention and reduction through structural and non-structural measures at all levels are essential to enhance the economic, social, health and cultural resilience of persons, communities and their assets, as well as the environment. These can be drivers of innovation, growth and job creation. Such measures are cost effective and instrumental to save lives, prevent and reduce losses and ensure efficient and effective recovery and rehabilitation at respective Local levels.

Priority 04 Continual enhancements in disaster management systems for effective response through a "Build Back Better" process

Experience indicates that through continual improvements of disaster preparedness/resilience through structural and non-structural measures needs to be strengthened for more effective response in general and ensure capacities are in place for effective response and recovery. Disasters have also demonstrated that the recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, which needs to be prepared ahead of a disaster, is an opportunity to "Build Back Better" through integrating disaster risk reduction measures. Women and persons with disabilities should be publicly lead and promote gender-equitable and universally accessible approaches especially during the response and reconstruction phases.

Guiding Principles

Primary responsibility of "State" to prevent and reduce disaster risks, including through cooperation.

Shared responsibility between Central Government and National Level Authorities, Sectors, and Stakeholders as appropriate to National level circumstances.

Protection of persons and their assets while promoting and protecting all human rights including the right to development.

Engagement from all of society.

Full engagement of all State institutions of an executive and legislative nature at local, sub-national and national levels.

Empowering of Local Governments and communities through resources, incentives and decision-making responsibilities as appropriate.

Decision-making to be inclusive and risk informed while using a multi-hazard approach.

Consider the coherence of disaster risk reduction and sustainable development policies, plans, practices and mechanism, across different sectors.

Accounting of local and specific characteristics of disaster risks when determining measures to reduce risk.

Addressing underlying risk factors cost-effectively through investment versus relying primarily on post-disaster response and recovery.

"Build Back Better" for preventing the creation of and reducing existing disaster risk.

The quality of National partnerships and cooperation to be effective, meaningful and strong.

Support from National Government and Partners to Local Governments to be prioritized/ tailored, according to needs and priorities, identified by them.

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