

TECHNICAL ANNEX**SOUTH ASIA¹****FINANCIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL INFORMATION**

The provisions of the financing decision ECHO/WWD/BUD/2015/01000 and the General Conditions of the Agreement with the European Commission shall take precedence over the provisions in this document.

The activities proposed hereafter are subject to any terms and conditions which may be included in the related Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP).

1. CONTACTS

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2. FINANCIAL INFO

Indicative Allocation: EUR 37 150 000

Man-made crises:	HA-FA: EUR 9 780 000
Natural disasters:	HA-FA: EUR 17 232 870
DIPECHO:	Dis. Prep.: EUR 9 850 000
Transport/logistics	HA-FA: EUR 287 130

¹ The countries covered by this HIP are: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, the Maldives and Sri Lanka. Afghanistan and Pakistan come under a separate HIP.

3. PROPOSAL ASSESSMENT

3.1. Administrative info

INDIA - Assessment round 1:

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 3 million (subject to the availability of payment appropriations, the amount awarded may be lower than the overall indicative amount or be spread over time. More information will be available upon adoption of the general budget of the European Union for the year 2015).
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: India, interventions as described in Section 3.4. of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2015². Actions can start from 01/01/2015
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action is up to 12 months
- e) Potential partners: All ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form³
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: from 30/11/2014 onwards

BANGLADESH - Assessment round 1:

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 9.5 million (subject to the availability of payment appropriations, the amount awarded may be lower than the overall indicative amount or be spread over time. More information will be available upon adoption of the general budget of the European Union for the year 2015).
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Bangladesh, interventions as described in Section 3.4 of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 1/01/2015⁴. Actions can start from 01/01/2015
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action is up to 12 months (up to 18 months for humanitarian co-ordination support and resilience actions).
- e) Potential partners: All ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form⁵. For submissions of proposed actions in Bangladesh, partners are requested to *complete the Resilience Marker in the Single Form*⁶.

² The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest.

³ Single Forms will be submitted to ECHO using APPEL

⁴ The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest.

⁵ Single Forms will be submitted to ECHO using APPEL

⁶ Subject to the e-Single Form being updated accordingly

- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 15/01/2015⁷.

BANGLADESH - Assessment round 2:

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 500 000.
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: all interventions as described in Section 0. of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 1/07/2015⁸. Actions can start from 01/08/2015
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action is up to 6 months.
- e) Potential partners: All ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form⁹ or short Single Form for urgent actions.
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 22/08/2015¹⁰.

NEPAL - Assessment round 1:

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 500 000 (subject to the availability of payment appropriations, the amount awarded may be lower than the overall indicative amount or be spread over time. More information will be available upon adoption of the general budget of the European Union for the year 2015).
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Nepal, food assistance to refugees from Bhutan.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2015¹¹. Actions can start from 01/01/2015
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action is up to 12 months
- e) Potential partners: The World Food Programme (WFP) is a preselected partner because the related activities present specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its mandate, technical competence, logistic capacity, high degree of specialization, and administrative structure.
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form¹²

⁷ The Commission reserves the right to consider Single Forms transmitted after this date, especially in case certain needs/ priorities are not covered by the received Single Forms.

⁸ The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest.

⁹ Single Forms will be submitted to ECHO using APPEL

¹⁰ The Commission reserves the right to consider Single Forms transmitted after this date, especially in case certain needs/ priorities are not covered by the received Single Forms.

¹¹ The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest.

¹² Single Forms will be submitted to ECHO using APPEL

- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 15/12/2014¹³

Disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction, resilience - Assessment round 1:

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 9 650 000 (subject to the availability of payment appropriations, the amount awarded may be lower than the overall indicative amount or be spread over time. More information will be available upon adoption of the general budget of the European Union for the year 2015).
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Disaster Preparedness or stand-alone Disaster Risk Reduction actions in the countries covered by this HIP and the specific guidelines under section 3.2.2.2 of this Technical Annex.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2015¹⁴. Actions can start from 01/01/2015
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action is up to 18 months
- e) Potential partners: All ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form¹⁵
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: from 30/11/14 onwards

NEPAL - Assessment round 2:

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 3 000 000 (subject to the availability of payment appropriations, the amount awarded may be lower than the overall indicative amount or be spread over time).
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Nepal, interventions as described in Section 0 and 3.4 of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 25/04/2015¹⁶. Actions can start from 25/04/2015
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action is up to 12 months.
- e) Potential partners: All ECHO partners.
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form¹⁷.

¹³ The Commission reserves the right to consider Single Forms transmitted after this date, especially in case certain needs/ priorities are not covered by the received Single Forms.

¹⁴ The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest.

¹⁵ Single Forms will be submitted to ECHO using APPEL

¹⁶ The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest.

¹⁷ Single Forms will be submitted to ECHO using APPEL

- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: as soon as possible and not later than 4/05/2015¹⁸.

NEPAL - Assessment round 3:

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 3 000 000 (subject to the availability of payment appropriations, the amount awarded may be lower than the overall indicative amount or be spread over time).
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Nepal, interventions as described in Section 0 and 3.4 of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 25/04/2015¹⁹. Actions can start from 25/04/2015
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action is up to 12 months.
- e) Potential partners: All ECHO partners.
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form²⁰.
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: as soon as possible and not later than 11/05/2015²¹.

NEPAL - Assessment round 4:

- h) Indicative amount: up to EUR 6 000 000 (subject to the availability of payment appropriations, the amount awarded may be lower than the overall indicative amount or be spread over time).
- i) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Nepal, interventions as described in Section 0 and 3.4 of the HIP.
- j) Costs will be eligible from 25/04/2015²². Actions can start from 25/04/2015
- k) The expected initial duration for the Action is up to 12 months.
- l) Potential partners: All ECHO partners.
- m) Information to be provided: Single Form²³.

¹⁸ The Commission reserves the right to consider Single Forms transmitted after this date, especially in case certain needs/ priorities are not covered by the received Single Forms.

¹⁹ The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest.

²⁰ Single Forms will be submitted to ECHO using APPEL

²¹ The Commission reserves the right to consider Single Forms transmitted after this date, especially in case certain needs/ priorities are not covered by the received Single Forms.

²² The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest.

²³ Single Forms will be submitted to ECHO using APPEL

- n) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: as soon as possible and not later than 06/07/2015²⁴.

NEPAL - Assessment round 5:

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 2 000 000 (subject to the availability of payment appropriations, the amount awarded may be lower than the overall indicative amount or be spread over time).
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Nepal, interventions as described in Section 0 and 3.4 of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 10/11/2015²⁵. Actions can start from 25/10/2015.
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action is up to 12 months.
- e) Potential partners: All ECHO partners.
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form²⁶.
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: as soon as possible and not later than 26/11/2015²⁷.

3.2. Operational requirements:

3.2.1. Assessment criteria:

The assessment of proposals will look at:

- The compliance with the proposed strategy (HIP) and the operational requirements described in this section;
- Commonly used principles such as: quality of the needs assessment and of the logical framework, relevance of the intervention and coverage, feasibility, applicant's implementation capacity and knowledge of the country/region.
- In case of actions already being implemented on the ground, where ECHO is requested to fund a continuation, a visit of the ongoing action may be conducted to determine the feasibility and quality of the Action proposed

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²⁶ Single Forms will be submitted to ECHO using APPEL

²⁷ The Commission reserves the right to consider Single Forms transmitted after this date, especially in case certain needs/ priorities are not covered by the received Single Forms.

3.2.2. Operational guidelines:

3.2.2.1. General Guidelines

In the design of your operation, ECHO policies and guidelines need to be taken into account:

The EU resilience communication and Action Plan

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/what/humanitarian-aid/resilience>

Food Assistance

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/what/humanitarian-aid/food-assistance>

Nutrition

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/news/201303_SWDUndernutritioninemergencies.pdf

Cash and vouchers

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/what/humanitarian-aid/cash-and-vouchers>

Protection

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/what/humanitarian-aid/protection>

Children in Conflict

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/policies/sectoral/children_2008_Emergency_Crisis_Situations_en.pdf

Emergency medical assistance

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/what/humanitarian-aid/health>

Civil–military coordination

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/what/humanitarian-aid/civil-military-relations>

Water sanitation and hygiene

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/policies/sectoral/WASH_SWD.pdf

Gender

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/policies/sectoral/Gender_SWD_2013.pdf

Disaster Risk Reduction

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/policies/prevention_preparedness/DRR_thematic_policy_document.pdf

Health guidelines

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/what/humanitarian-aid/health>

ECHO Visibility website – visibility and communication manual

<http://www.echo-visibility.eu/>

http://www.echo-visibility.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/2014_visibility_manual_en.pdf

A set of overall principles needs to guide every operation supported by ECHO.

The humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, in line with the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, and strict adherence to a "**do no harm**" approach remain paramount.

The safe and secure provision of aid: the ability to safely deliver assistance to all areas must be preserved. ECHO requests its partners to include in the project proposal details on how safety and security of staff (including the staff of implementing partners) and assets is being considered as well as an analysis of threats and plans to mitigate and limit exposure to risks. ECHO or its partners can request the suspension of ongoing actions as a result of serious threats to the safety of staff.

Accountability: partners remain accountable for their operations, in particular:

- The identification of the beneficiaries and of their needs using, for example, baseline surveys, KAP-surveys, Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) or beneficiary profiling;
- Management and monitoring of operations, and having adequate systems in place to facilitate this;
- Reporting on activities and outcomes, and the associated capacities to collect and analyse information;
- Identification and analysis of logistic and access constraints and risks, and the steps taken to address them.

Remote management: ECHO does not fund actions using remote management, other than in exceptional circumstances, where access to a crisis zone is limited due to security concerns or bureaucratic obstacles. This mode of operations should therefore only be proposed as a last resort, and in the context of life-saving activities.

Gender-Age Mainstreaming: Ensuring gender-age mainstreaming is of paramount importance to ECHO, since it is an issue of quality programming. Gender and age matter in humanitarian aid because women, girls, boys, men and elderly women and men are affected by crises in different ways. Thus, the assistance needs to be adapted to their specific needs - otherwise it risks being off-target, failing its objectives or even doing harm to beneficiaries. It is also a matter of compliance with the EU humanitarian mandate and the humanitarian principles, in line with international conventions and commitments. All project proposals/reports must demonstrate integration of gender and age in a coherent manner throughout the Single Form, including in the needs assessment and risk analysis, the logical framework, description of activities and the gender-age marker section. The Gender-Age Marker is a tool that uses four criteria to assess how strongly ECHO funded humanitarian actions integrates gender and age consideration. For more information about the marker and how it is applied please consult the Gender-Age Marker Toolkit

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/policies/sectoral/gender_age_marker_toolkit.pdf

Protection: Mainstreaming of basic protection principles in traditional assistance programmes is of paramount importance to ECHO. This approach is closely linked to the principle of 'do no harm', and also extends the commitment of safe and equal access to assistance as well as the need for special measures to ensure access for particularly vulnerable groups. All proposals MUST demonstrate integration of these principles, but also in its substantive sections, i.e. the logical framework, result and activity descriptions, etc.

Integration of protection concerns should, in particular, be reflected in any actions implemented in a displacement- hosting context (be it refugees or IDPs), in situations of conflict or in contexts where social exclusion is a known factor, where considerations on inter-communal relationships are of utmost importance for the protection of the affected population.

While humanitarian assistance often focuses on community-level interventions, it is important to remember that, in order to fully address many protection issues, it is also necessary to consider the relevance and feasibility of advocacy (structural level) interventions aimed at (a) stopping the violations by perpetrators and/or (b) convincing the duty-bearers to fulfil their responsibilities.

Do no harm: Partners should ensure that the context analysis takes into account threats in addition to vulnerabilities and capacities of affected populations. The analysis should bring out both external threats to the target population as well as the coping strategies adopted to counteract the vulnerabilities. The risk equation model provides a useful tool to conduct this analysis. The model stipulates that *Risks equals Threats multiplied by Vulnerabilities divided by Capacities*, and the way to reduce risks is by reducing the threats and vulnerabilities and increasing the capacities. Depending on the type of threat faced by the population in question, reducing it can be anything from possible/straightforward to impossible/dangerous. In the latter case, one will resort to focusing on vulnerabilities and capacities, but the fact that the analysis has acknowledged the threat will contribute to ensuring that the response subsequently selected does not exacerbate the population's exposure to the risk.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR): As part of the commitment of ECHO to mainstream disaster risk reduction in its humanitarian operations, the needs assessment presented in the Single Form should reflect, whenever relevant, the exposure to natural hazards and the related vulnerability of the targeted population and their livelihoods and assets. This analysis should also assess the likely impact of the humanitarian intervention on both immediate and future risks as well as the partner's institutional commitment to and operational capability in managing risk (technical competence in the relevant sectors of intervention. The DRR approach and related measures are relevant in all humanitarian sectors (WASH, nutrition, food assistance and livelihoods, health, protection, etc.), and should be systematically considered in hazard-prone contexts. Risk-informed programming across sectors should protect operations and beneficiaries from hazard occurrence, and include contingency arrangements for additional or expanded activities that might be required. Information from early warning systems should be incorporated into programme decision making and design, even where the humanitarian operation is not the result of a specific hazard.

For targeted DRR interventions, the information in the Single Form should clearly show that:

- all risks have been clearly identified, including their possible interactions;
- the intervention strengthens and promotes the role of the state and non-state actors in disaster reduction and climate change adaptation from national to local levels;
- the measures planned are effective in strengthening the capacity of communities and local authorities to plan and implement local level disaster risk reduction

activities in a sustainable way, and have the potential to be replicated in other similar contexts;

- the intervention contributes to improving the mechanisms to coordinate disaster risk reduction programmes and stakeholders at national to local levels.
- demonstrate that the action is designed including the existing good practice in this field;
- the partner has an appropriate monitoring, evaluation and learning mechanism to ensure evidence of the impact of the action and good practice are gathered, and effectively disseminated.

Strengthening coordination: Partners should provide specific information on their active engagement in cluster/sector and inter-cluster/sector coordination: participation in coordination mechanisms at different levels, not only in terms of meetings but also in terms of joint field assessments and engagement in technical groups and joint planning activities. The partners should actively engage with the relevant local authorities and, when feasible and appropriate, stipulate co-ordination in Memoranda of Understanding. When appropriate, partners should endeavour to exchange views on issues of common interest with actors present in the field (e.g. EU, UN, AU missions, etc.). In certain circumstances, coordination and deconfliction with military actors might be necessary. This should be done in a way that does not endanger humanitarian actors or the humanitarian space, and without prejudice to the mandate and responsibilities of the actor concerned.

Integrated approaches: Whenever possible, integrated approaches with multi- or cross-sectoral programming of responses in specific geographical areas are encouraged to maximize impact, synergies and cost-effectiveness. Partners are requested to provide information on how their actions are integrated with other actors present in the same area.

Resilience: ECHO's objective is to respond to the acute humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable and exposed people while increasing their **resilience** in line with EU resilience policy. Where feasible, cost effective, and without compromising humanitarian principles, ECHO support will contribute to longer term strategies to build the capacities of the most vulnerable and address underlying reasons for their vulnerability – to all shocks and stresses.

All ECHO partners are expected to identify opportunities to reduce future risks to vulnerable people and to strengthen livelihoods and capacities. ECHO encourages its partners to develop their contextual risk and vulnerability analysis and to adapt their approach to the type of needs and opportunities identified. This requires partners to strengthen their engagement with government services, development actors and with different sectors. In that regard, ECHO partners should indicate how they will increase ownership and capacity of local actors whenever possible: community mobilisation, CSOs, technical dialogue, coordination and gradual transfer of responsibilities to countries' administration or relevant line ministries.

Good coordination and strategic complementarity between humanitarian and development activities (LRRD approach) are essential to the resilience approach, particularly in relation to i) increasing interest of development partners and governments on nutrition issues; ii) seeking for more sustainable solutions for refugees (access to

education, innovative approach toward strengthening self-resilience, etc.); iii) integrating disaster risk reduction into humanitarian interventions.

Community-based approach: In all sectors, interventions should adopt, wherever possible, a community-based approach in terms of defining viable options to effectively help increasing resilience and meeting basic needs among the most vulnerable. This includes the identification of critical needs as prioritised by the communities, and the transfer of appropriate knowledge and resources.

Response Analysis to Support Modality Selection for all Resource Transfers is mandatory. ECHO will support the most effective and efficient modality of providing assistance, whether it be cash, vouchers or in-kind assistance. ECHO does not advocate for the preferential use of either (i) cash/voucher-based or (ii) in-kind humanitarian assistance. Partners should provide sufficient information on the reasons about why a transfer modality is proposed and another one is excluded. The choice of the transfer modality must demonstrate that the response analysis took into account the market situation in the affected area. Multiple contextual factors must be taken into account, including technical feasibility criteria, security of beneficiaries, agency staff and communities, beneficiary preference, needs and risks of specific vulnerable groups (such as Pregnant and Lactating Women, elderly, child headed households etc.), mainstreaming of protection (safety and equality in access), gender (different needs and vulnerabilities of women, men, boys and girls) concerns and cost-effectiveness. Therefore for any type of transfer modality proposed, the partner should provide the minimum information as recommended in the '[Thematic Policy Document n° 3 - Cash and Vouchers: Increasing efficiency and effectiveness across all sectors](#)' and demonstrate that the modality proposed will be the most efficient and effective to reach the objective of the action proposed.

For in-kind transfer local purchase are encouraged when possible.

3.2.2.2. Specific guidelines

Inclusion of marginalised groups (Low Castes, Tribes, other minorities, people living with disabilities, women, the elderly) must be properly and systematically addressed in all projects and sectors. These groups live in hazard-prone areas, are disproportionately at risk, and are often excluded from government schemes and relief efforts, further entrenching their vulnerability. The EU financed the IDSN's 2013 report Equality in Aid, and subscribes to its recommendations:

http://idsn.org/fileadmin/user_folder/pdf/New_files/Key_Issues/Disaster_response/EqualityInAid_web_version.pdf

European Parliament resolution of 10 October 2013 on caste-based discrimination:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT%20TA%20P7-TA-2013-0420%200%20DOC%20XML%20V0//EN>

When relevant from an operational point of view, and in order to promote coherence and synergies, consortia among partners may be established.

ECHO's Regional Support Office for South Asia has developed a Geo-database for the reporting of all projects containing a WASH, Shelter or Livelihoods component. Partners

working in **India** and **Bangladesh** are requested to continuously update this database for these sectors and to present a completed dataset, including geo-referenced photographs, with their final report.

India

ECHO encourages the reception of "countrywide" proposals, i.e. one proposal per partner, encompassing all the geographical areas and issues the partner intends to address in India with ECHO funding.

Bangladesh

For disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and resilience building activities, proposals should be based on a sound needs assessment, rapid reaction capacity, confirmed field presence and an element of co-funding. Strong linkage with local disaster management committees in liaison with their Risk Reduction Assessment Planning is also required.

As far as general coordination and assessment methods are concerned, ECHO supports the Joint Needs Assessment (JNA) approach developed in Bangladesh by all stakeholders and the Government of Bangladesh.

Disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction, resilience

I. Key requirements

All proposals must indicate planning and implementation priorities; some of these have already been identified during the Lessons Learnt Workshops held at the end of the DIPECHO 7th Action Plan (2013-14). The starting point for disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and resilience building projects may be the common models developed in the previous DIPECHO cycles, or the clearly identified need for specific targeted actions, informed by strong analysis of the local context, gaps and opportunities in the DP/DRR landscape.

1. DP/DRR/resilience strategy: The proposals must demonstrate a clearly defined DP/DRR/resilience strategy, of which the Action is a component coherent with and complementary to the broader national or regional DRR/resilience agenda, including through DRR mainstreaming in humanitarian response and development. The Action should not be the sole DRR/resilience component of the Partner's portfolio. Furthermore, the Action should seek to contribute to the implementation of the HFA 2005-2015 and the subsequent HFA 2.

2. Compliance with local specificities: DP/DRR/resilience Actions must be designed so as to ensure that the DP/DRR models promoted incorporate technical tools, local customs and traditions, as well as local administrative settings. Actions must be closely coordinated with national DRR/resilience policies, involving all relevant national

entities, with the objective of maximising ownership, institutionalization, replication and sustainability.

3. Specific recommendations for the common models developed under the 7th DIPECHO Action Plan (2013-14) for community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) and school-based disaster preparedness (SBDP): As a first step, the common models drafted under the 7th Action Plan, both on CBDP and SBDP, must be further revised, simplified and adapted to the reality of local capacities and resources. Increasing the affordability of the models promoted must remain a priority.

4. Urban DRR/resilience: More attention must be paid to the needs of the growing urban population in South Asia. Pilot urban approaches, including through CBDP, SBDP and reinforcing health systems' preparedness for major disasters (in line with UNISDR's Safer Hospitals campaign), should be further pursued and developed to match the reality of population distribution.

5. Context and needs assessment: Include an assessment of risks and vulnerable groups, as well as an analysis and mapping of stakeholders' mandates, actual roles and relationships and relevant entry points.

6. Exit strategy: Proposals should include an exit strategy, through the handover of responsibilities to local stakeholders. Partners must develop strategies in the short, medium and long-term, in which DP/DRR/resilience actions are time-bound and provide a clear and demonstrable impact. Reinforced linkages with development strategies should be used to ensure longer-term support and capacity-building to local stakeholders, allowing ECHO to progressively withdraw.

II. Technical requirements and information

1. Project management: A Project Manager, with previous international experience as project manager in DP/DRR/resilience programmes, will be compulsory from the start date of the Action.

2. Intervention modalities: Two options are open: national project (one or more organisation(s), one proposal, one agreement), multi-country/regional project (one or more organisation(s), two or more countries targeted, one proposal, one agreement). Multi-country/regional projects go beyond the mere sum of national initiatives and should have an outreach component. They should take into consideration existing regional or global initiatives and involve relevant stakeholders from targeted countries (including other ECHO partners) in the definition and implementation of the operations. The value added of the multi-country/regional approach should be explicit.

3. Legal frameworks and national institutions: Most South Asian countries are in the process of developing institutional and legal DP/DRR/resilience frameworks. All proposals should align with and contribute to the implementation of these frameworks at

all appropriate levels, from national to local, and seek to promote effective synergies between them, to the extent possible.

4. **Coordination:** Partners must engage in regular coordination among themselves and with other DP/DRR/resilience actors in the country/region, with the view to develop operational and advocacy synergies while contributing to national DRR platforms. To the extent possible, Partners shall participate in joint activities and actively seek opportunities to join efforts with other organisations. Such activities shall not be limited to advocacy and public awareness raising.

5. **Technical expertise:** Actions focusing on specific sub-sectors, such as Early Warning Systems (EWS), resilient livelihoods, etc., must demonstrate a relevant technical expertise, the availability of tested and approved technologies, as well as a coherent DP/DRR/resilience strategy.

6. **Capitalization and sharing of expertise:** Partners must ensure the capitalisation and dissemination of successful experiences in a systematic manner, including through case studies which demonstrate the actual impact of current and previous DIPECHO Actions. The management, dissemination and use of DP/DRR material and tools developed under previous DIPECHO Action Plans or other programmes, including in other countries, is a priority. Development of new tools and documents should be limited to cases where such tools or experience have not yet been explored or created.

7. **Mitigation works:** Small-scale mitigation works and infrastructure must remain an outcome of the DP/DRR/resilience participatory process at community level. Such works must be in line with realistically expectable replication, through local government services or other development initiatives, unless clear and urgent humanitarian needs are identified.

8. **Baseline and end line surveys:** Such surveys are essential to demonstrate achievements and are thus strongly recommended. Baseline surveys shall not be limited to communities, but also target government services and civil society.

9. **Financial matters:** ECHO's financial contribution will, in principle, not exceed 85% of the total eligible costs of the Action.

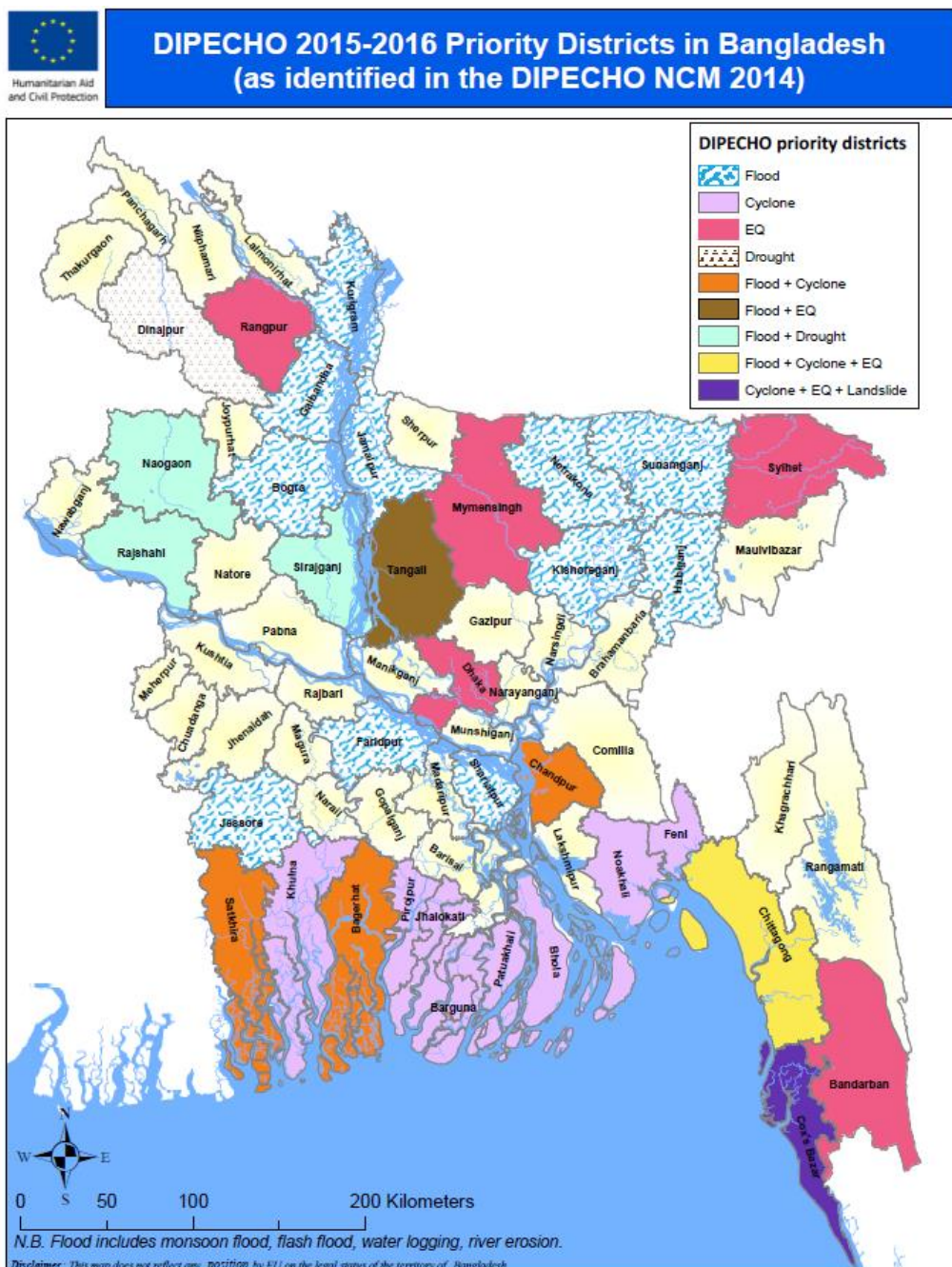
III. Priorities per country

DIPECHO National Consultative Meetings (NCM) were held in July and August 2014 in Colombo, Dhaka and Kathmandu. The following points reflect ECHO's priorities as well as recommendations made by Partners at the NCMs and at the regional Lessons Learnt Workshop (LLW) of the 7th DIPECHO Action Plan, held in July 2014 in Kathmandu.

All Partners should be aware of the LLW report and respective NCM reports, so that the recommendations are reflected in the proposals.

Bangladesh

Hazard and geographic priorities



Operational priorities

In order to promote sustainability and replication it is crucial that all projects explicitly incorporate strategies for transition and continuation by other stakeholders, in particular the government. Such linkage and efforts to promote institutionalization are a pre-requisite. Targeted actions are envisaged to contribute concretely to a broader resilience agenda by supporting in particular resilient livelihoods. Thematic priorities are the following:

Community-Based Disaster Preparedness:

Develop an advocacy strategy with all relevant stakeholders from civil society, government agencies and line ministries, cluster system and donors, aimed at:

- Incorporating risk assessment as a pre-condition for planning within government ministries (E.g. Ministries of Agriculture, Education, Health, and Social Welfare):
- Enhanced multi-hazard, multi-sectorial assessment and development planning (Union Master Plan) and harmonised training module adapted for the urban context:
- Integration and synergies between the SBDP, resilient livelihoods and CBDP components.

School Based Disaster Preparedness:

- Identify ways to expand the number of students reached, for example through the non-formal education system, the non-governmental school system, pre-primary schools, or madrasas;
- Conduct further capacity building on SBDP and Education in Emergencies, through teacher and education officials training institutes (pre-service, foundation, textbook/curriculum-based, and in-service training);
- Based on DIPECHO VII model, replicate disaster-resilient SLIP/UPEP²⁸ nation-wide.

Resilient Livelihoods:

- Engage the private sector, community-based organisations, and livelihoods collectives (farmer groups, traders, millers, etc.);
- Mainstream resilient livelihoods planning into the sectorial annual development plans;
- Extend work to most vulnerable regions of Bangladesh (e.g. Satkhira, Cox's Bazaar and Chittagong Hill Tracts);
- Integrate disaster resilient livelihoods into Agriculture Extension Officers' plans.

Bhutan

No National Consultative Meeting was held in Bhutan, given the limited DIPECHO portfolio and humanitarian community in the country. However, the following recommendations have to be considered by ECHO partners intending to apply for funding:

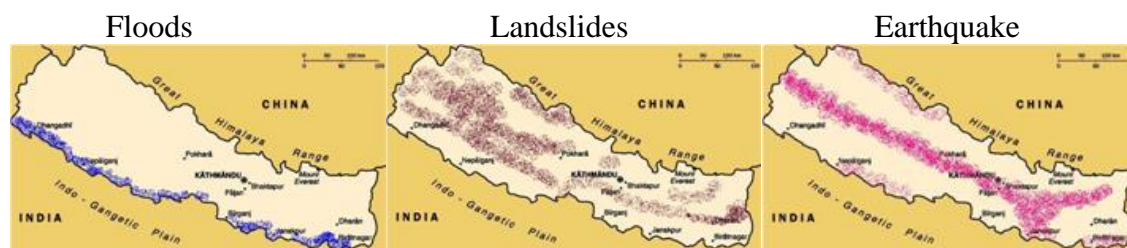
²⁸ School Level Implementation Plan (SLIP) and Upazilla Primary Education Plan (UPEP)

- Community and school focused Disaster Preparedness projects should be developed as much as possible with a multi-hazard approach (earthquakes, storms, landslides, fires, floods and GLOF²⁹);
- There should be further integration and synergies between the SBDP and CBDP components;
- Partners must demonstrate a clear technical, operational and field monitoring capacity;
- Coordination with other DRR stakeholders, including the relevant national authorities, should be considered as a priority from project design stage until completion of the Actions.

Nepal

Hazard and geographic priorities

The priority hazards and geographic areas are as follows: floods in Terai (flat areas), landslides in the hills and mountains and earthquake in the mid hills and Terai.



Actions will have to include a strong focus on institution building to facilitate an exit strategy. They are also to have strong linkages with the National Risk Reduction Consortium. Target actions may be envisaged to this end, contributing concretely to the overall resilience agenda. The model for urban community-based disaster risk reduction is yet to be finalized.

Operational priorities

Community Based DRR

- Optimise coordination with different DRR platforms, such as the NRRC flagships, the Association of International NGOs (AIN) and the Disaster Preparedness Network of Nepal (DP-Net).
- Develop a common advocacy action plan with clear objectives, targets, indicators and roles and responsibilities at the early phase of project implementation. Involve DRR networks, such as the Disaster Preparedness Network of Nepal (DPNet) and organizations and networks representing the vulnerable communities such as Dalit, tribal and women. Advocacy efforts should be targeted at multiple levels starting with communities, Village Development Committees, municipalities, and District, up to the National level.

²⁹ Glacial Lake Outburst Flood

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- Advocate for dedicated government officials for disaster risk management at municipalities and in key government departments and ministries.
 - To support greater attention to urban DRR, initiate pilot projects on a small scale to develop risk assessment and community mobilization tools/methods in urban settings. Identify a government agency that is able to coordinate with multiple stakeholders.
 - Encourage government and other donors to replicate flood early warning systems developed in previous DIPECHO actions in other parts of the country.
 - Engage government national training institutions for conducting DRR training at central and district levels.
 - Central government to oversee/track CBDRR implementation.

School Based Disaster Risk Management

- Further integration of the Comprehensive School Safety Framework into the Nepal context and development of related implementation guidelines is necessary.
- Introduce multi hazard risk assessment tools for schools.
- Linkage between SBDP and CBDP, through policies and planning process, must be reinforced.
- Promote evidence based joint advocacy for SBDP with School and teacher associations such as Private and Boarding School's Organizations of Nepal (PABSON), Curriculum Development Centre (CDC), School Sector Reform Program (SSRP) and NRRC Flagship 1.

Health Disaster Preparedness

- Establishment of an Incident Command System at the Ministry of Health and Population. The command system should enable the Ministry to organize resources, staff and facilities in order to remain operational during an emergency.
- Institutionalise disaster management training (Mass Casualty Management, Hospital Preparedness for Emergency, Protocol, health professionals' roster and early deployment referral mechanism) through the national health training centre.
- Strengthen the operational capacity of the newly established Health Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC) to enhance coordination and communication with the referral hospitals and the National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC).
- Integrate Incident Command System in Mass Casualty Management Plan and test the plan.
- Provide technical support to develop a plan for hospitals to reach out to communities, especially when there are a high number of affected people in these communities, for example during epidemics.
- Include health sector preparedness activities into local level planning process (LDRMP) including open spaces planning in Kathmandu valley.
- Mainstream health sector preparedness into the existing urban CBDRM.

Sri Lanka

Hazard and geographic priorities

The hazards prioritized for future DIPECHO interventions are: Floods, droughts, tsunamis, landslides, and cyclones. The following districts should be targeted in priority: Mullaittivu and Killinochchi.

Operational priorities

As the DIPECHO programme is gradually phasing out, it is crucial that all applications explicitly incorporate strategies for transition and continuation by other stakeholders, in particular government and development partners. Efforts to support institutionalization have to be demonstrated. Focusing on floods and droughts hazards will be essential, considering their recent impacts. Thematic priorities are the following:

Replication and local implementation of the common CBDRM/SBDP model developed through DIPECHO actions

- A priority is the validation of the models at national level by the relevant institutions; ownership of the models needs further attention. The replication of the Common Model by the Ministry of Disaster Management requires that the Government validates the model and incorporates it into the CDMP framework. A systemic approach is required for the replication (i.e. from local to national level). Currently the perception is that it is limited to the North and East.
- Produce operational guidelines for local implementation of the models (i.e. identify focal people, set up roles and responsibilities, capacity building strategy (Training of Trainers) using DIPECHO and other DRR initiatives' good practices and experiences.
- The common models should remain technically simple, affordable and keep the social inclusiveness dimension.
- Continue promoting the incorporation of DRR into Village and School Development Plans. Mobilize funds from District Development Funds to be allocated for DRR in Village and School Development Plans. Continue promoting linkages between DRR plans and development plans, from micro level (village development plans) to the macro level (line ministries plans). Develop the capacity of government officials in term of awareness and risk analysis. Raise awareness of local politicians on DRR plans in order to promote funding allocations.

Coordination and Advocacy

- Further synergies between SBDMP and CBDMP should be promoted and implemented at all levels from community to national level, by building bridges between the Ministry of Disaster Management and the Ministry of Education. The participation of other relevant ministries such as the Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Irrigation & Water Resources Management should also be reinforced.
- Future action should advocate for mainstreaming DRR into the Development Fora (e.g. District and Development Coordination Meeting).
- Encourage private sector participation for technical, funding and advocacy purposes.

- Promote ad hoc learning and coordination mechanisms, involving all DRR stakeholders, both from government and non-government sector.
- Explore the potential role of local media (newspapers, radio) to promote DRR among the general public and development stakeholders.
- Develop a common advocacy strategy and action plan, towards the various relevant government entities, development donors and other stakeholders, so that the models and expertise developed under DIPECHO are integrated, replicated and scaled-up within government and development programmes.