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Ministria e Punëve të Brendshme / Ministarstvo Unutrasnjih Poslova
/Ministry of Internal Affairs
Agjencia e Menaxhimit Emergjent/Agencija Emergentnog Upravljanja
/Emergency Management Agency

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION STRATEGY AND PLAN OF ACTION 2016 - 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO

DRRS aims to reduce the existing risks and prevent new risks, empower sustainability, including the country's primary responsibility to prevent and reduce the disaster risks, and engagement of the whole society and government institutions. The scope of DRRS is significantly expanded and focused on the natural risks and environmental and technological related risks.

Natural disasters and technological disasters are rapidly and intensively increasing; significantly hampering the progress towards the sustainable development; generating new risks; increase of disaster related losses that have an economic, social, health, cultural and environmental impact. The facts show that the exposure of persons and assets, in all countries, has rapidly increased rather than the overall vulnerability decreased.

DRRS is a cross-cutting, comprehensive, achievable, effective and efficient strategy aiming to reduce the NDTD risks. To understand this, the disaster risk management, for governmental officials at all levels, civil society, communities and volunteers as well as the private sector, must be increased through exchange of experiences, lessons learnt, best practices and training and education on disaster risk reduction, including the use of existing mutual mechanisms of training, education and learning.

International, regional, cross-regional and cross-border cooperation remains important in supporting the efforts of countries, their national and local authorities, as well as the business communities on disaster risk reduction.

Taking this into consideration and in order to reduce disaster risk, there is a need to address the existing challenges and preparations for future challenges, focusing on monitoring, assessment and understanding of risk disaster and exchange of such information and on how is created the disaster risk management strengthening and coordination of all institutions and relevant sectors and full and meaningful participation of stakeholders in relevant levels.

Prevention of new risks and reduction of current disaster risks, through implementation of integrated and overwhelming economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce the exposure and vulnerability from disaster risks, increase the preparedness, response and recovery, hence strengthening sustainability.

The Republic of Kosovo, as a new developing country, needs increase of coordinated, sustainable and proper international support and disaster risk reduction, knowing the facing with specific challenges for development and strengthening of domestic prevention, preparation, rehabilitation and recovery capacities, therefore, international, regional, cross-regional and cross-border cooperation remains important in supporting the efforts of the central and local governing authorities, as well as the business communities on disaster risk reduction. For that reason, the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo must cooperate with development international financial institutions, such as the World Bank and regional banks, and should analyse the goals of this strategy for provision of financial support and loans for integrated disaster risk reduction in the country.

Disaster risk reduction is a cost-effective investment in prevention of future losses. Effective disaster management contributes to sustainable development. The country must improve its capacities on disaster risk management.

The institutions of the Republic of Kosovo and other central and local jurisdictions will be mainly responsible for the implementation of DRRS.

**Minister of internal Affairs of the Republic of Kosovo
Pristina, December 2015**

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION

CEFTA	The Central European Free Trade Agreement
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
DPPA	Declaration of Mid Term Priority Policies
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
HIK	Hydrometeorology Institute of Kosovo
IEMS	Integrated Emergency Management System
IPA	Instrument for Pre-Accession
MAFRD	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development
MCR	Ministry of Communities and Returnees
MCYS	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
MED	Ministry of Economic Development
MEI	Ministry of European Integration
MESP	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
MEST	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
MF	Ministry of Finance
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MH	Ministry of Health
MI	Ministry of Infrastructure
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MLGA	Ministry of Local Government Administration
MPA	Ministry of Public Administration
MWSW	Ministry of Work and Social Welfare
NDOD	Natural disasters and other disasters
NJPZSH	Specialized Units for Fire fighting and Rescue
KSF	Kosovo Security Forces
OPM	the Office of Prime Minister
PLANAT	National Platform for Natural Hazards
RCK	Red Cross of Kosova
SFA	Sendai Framework for Action
SPRA	Structures for protection-rescue and Aid
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	the United Nations Children's Fund
UNISDR	the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
WTO	World Trade Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Natural disasters in Kosovo present a great risk for the life, wealth, environment and cultural heritage of its citizens. In fact, the whole process of economic and social development of the country is vulnerable to natural disaster risks, which often cost millions of Euros to the economy, and especially affecting the community in need. Being a new country, Kosovo has not yet built full capacities for natural disaster risk reduction at all stages of the emergency management. This strategy that includes the period 2016 - 2020 is a substantial document aiming to coordinate the work of actors in the local level, relevant ministries as well as the foreign and local donors to reduce disaster risk and at the same time contributing to sustainable development for Kosovo. This document is the first strategy on risk reduction in the Republic of Kosovo and as such will serve as a baseline on which the disaster risk reduction programme will be built and activities coordinated for coming years.

The main goals of this strategy (2016 - 2020) are the following:

- Integration of risk reduction in development policies and plans, as well as oversight;
- Strengthening of risk management capacities by NDOD;
- Creation of safe and resilient communities from disasters;
- Awareness raising and urging of institutions and entities for the risks from NDOD.

Added value of the strategy will be that for the first time Kosovo will have a single document that contains all fields related to natural and technological disaster risk reduction. The strategy also is in compliance with the international standards; furthermore its goals are in line with the Sendai Framework Action, as well as the European Strategy for Supporting Disaster Risk Reduction in developing countries (2009). The DRR is related to the Declaration of Medium-term Policies Priority (DMPP) of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo 2014-2016, defines the framework for the policies and projects which the Government of the Republic of Kosovo plans to implement during the future medium-term period 2014-2016. Chapter 2 "Good governance", Article 3.2 Strengthening and implementation of the law, "Managing emergency situations will continue with the existing policies: building of operational capacities."¹

The strategy is in compliance with global efforts and the requests placed by the international community and the European Commission, as a global effort within the United Nations Programme for Disaster Risk Reduction and Global Warming.

The following chapters will be focused on the main issues that lead to decisions to set actions for risk reduction in Kosovo. The First Chapter elaborates the methodology used to draft this strategy. The Second Chapter describes the profiles of disasters in Kosovo outlining the essential problems addressed in this document. The Third Chapter contains the priorities of this strategy starting with the vision, mission, strategic objectives and measures by which the success of this strategy will be measured. The Fourth and Fifth Chapter investigate, discuss and require alternative solutions, and the legal and institutional context upon which the strategy is based on. The Sixth Chapter elaborates and highlights the policies deriving from this strategy, which are included in the action plan reflecting activities, duties and responsibilities of relevant institutions, measuring indicators, time frames and cost. Finally, the Seventh Chapter provides monitoring and evaluation criteria to ensure successful implementation of the DRR Strategy.

¹ Kosovo Government, 2013, Declaration of Medium-term Policies Priority 2014-2016.

INTRODUCTION

After declaration of Independence, on 17 February 2008, the Republic of Kosovo undertook “the obligations of responsible membership at the international Community” and accepted to “abide by the principles of the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, other actions of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the international legal obligations and principles of international comity that mark the relations among states.”

Kosovo has achieved success in many aspects of its development, such as: political and economic stability, amendment of legislation, building of security infrastructure and the emergency management capacities turning into a factor of stability in the region.

Based on the Law on EMA², the Emergency Management Agency (EMA)/MIA is the main institution responsible for coordination and management of emergency situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), which coordinates and cooperates closely with the central and local institutions, NGOs, civil society, private sector, etc.

Kosovo already has become part of economic integration in the region, aiming to expand its market further more. The purpose is to increase the level of competitiveness in economy by increasing its exporting capacity to reduce the trade deficit that Kosovo currently has. As an important place for business development, Kosovo offers a set of comparative advantage such as: young very well qualified population, significant natural resources, viable climate conditions, new infrastructure, and geographic position with access to the regional market of CEFTA and the European Union, a place that inspires other powerful economic-financial mechanisms, such as World Trade Organization (WTO), etc.

Kosovo has a rich cultural heritage from the antique citizenships to the current one, which inherits a rich cultural treasury that is integral part of the world cultural heritage. This rich heritage is in every part of Kosovo, such as: parks and archaeological and natural centres, art galleries, photography and film archives, castles and fortresses, cult monuments and settlements, cobalt and alleys, fountains and its museums, artefact collections, artisan works, etc.

Central institutions and other relevant entities at the state level that were closely consulted for this strategy include: the Office of Prime Minister (OPM), Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP), Hydrometeorology Institute of Kosovo (HIK), Red Cross of Kosova (RCK), Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD), Ministry of Health (MH), Ministry of Economic Development (MED), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), private sector, Business Alliance, etc.

The emergency situations caused by NDOD or human activities endanger the lives of people every day and causes losses of material goods. The disaster risk exists in all societies as disasters impact in the reduction of development trends of the society in general, whereas their occurrence in a country may cause losses not only to the country affected by the disaster but also in a broader area. Interweaving of abovementioned factors requires drafting of a National Strategic Document/Plan, at a country level, on natural disaster risk reduction and preparedness for a bet-

² Law on Emergency Management Agency, Nr. 2004/ 04/L-230.

ter response in the Republic of Kosovo, which includes prevention, preparedness, response and recovery stages.

This strategy that includes the period 2016 - 2020 is closely linked to the below objective of the Kosovo Government related natural disasters³:

- Specific objective in the area coping with civil emergency.
- Conducting separate studies in order to prevent emergencies from natural disasters, as well as the preparation and enhancement of the capacities for response to emergencies.

The basis for DRR Strategy is found in the Law No. 04/-L-027 on protection against natural and other disasters, AI 02/2012, as well as the Document of the Risk Assessment of Natural and Other Disasters that was drafted pursuant to the Regulation No 28/2012.

The DRR Strategy (2016 - 2020) is also in compliance with national and international documents, such as: Strategic Document of the Republic of Kosovo, Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS), Security Strategy, Strategy on Climate Change 2014-2020, Sustainable Development Goals set pursuant to the United Nations and within the Sendai Framework for Action 2015-2030: Development of national sustainability and community in natural and other disasters, etc. Apart from this, when drafting the National Strategy, European Union Internal Security Strategy and the European Strategy for Supporting Disaster Risk Reduction in developing countries were also taken into account.⁴ The DRR Strategy will also serve as a guideline of Kosovo for membership to "European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction."

³ Kosovo Government, 2013, Program of the Kosovo Republic Government 2015-2018, http://www.kryeministri-ks.net/repository/docs/programi_i_qeverise_shqip.pdf, accessed on December 11, 2015

⁴ UNISDR, Preventionweb, <http://www.preventionweb.net/ipadrr/>, accessed on December 11, 2015.

CHAPTER I:

METHODOLOGY

To draft the DRR Strategy, Kosovo was supported by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and consulted professional experts of the National Platform for Natural Hazards (PLANAT) of the Swiss Confederation, benefiting from the best practices and as well as professional study visits/experience exchange were conducted.

By Decision 05/10, on 29.10.2014, the Chief Emergency Management Agency approved establishing of a working group to draft the strategy with the representatives of the following entities: Emergency Management Agency/Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Office of Prime Minister, Ministry of Local Governance, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, Ministry of Finances, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Ministry of Health, Ministry of European Integration, whereas in the capacity of experts there are UNDP officials and inter-ministerial water council. Aiming a multidisciplinary risk reduction approach and integration of these phenomena in the country's development policies and plans, the working group, after a three day seminar, met regularly on monthly basis to supervise the progress and plan the future steps. Ministries and other relevant institutions, which are not part of the working group, were consulted, such as: Ministry of Health, Agency of Food and Veterinary, Agency for Protection from Radiation and Nuclear Protection, etc. so that the strategy would be as comprehensive and meaningful as possible.

The group of experts from PLANAT always, at different stages of the strategy development, provided consultancy about the content of the strategy. Finally, some phenomena such as climate change, ionizing and flooding are not dealt within this strategy, as they are covered by relevant sector strategies.

CHAPTER II:

BACKGROUND

2.4.1. Problem

This strategy deals specifically with the Natural and Technological Disaster Risk Reduction. Kosovo is exposed and significantly vulnerable to natural and technological disasters. In the territory of Kosovo these are distinguished seismic areas: Ferizaj-Viti-Gjilan, Skenderaj, Mitrovica, Peja-Gjakova-Prizren-Dragash and Kopaonik. The highest expected magnitudes are: Ferizaj-Viti-Gjilan (6.5), Skenderaj (5.0), Mitrovica (5.0), Peja-Gjakova-Prizren-Dragash (6.6) and Kopaonik (6.0).⁵

The last earthquake in Istog with the highest strike occurred in 2010 in the western part of the country and reached magnitude 5.2. In April 2002, Gjilan was struck by an earthquake of magnitude 5.5 that caused significant damages to the infrastructure and material goods. According to the Seismologic Institute, around 10 earthquakes with low intensity are registered every day in the country⁶.

The natural disasters that frequently strike and risk Kosovo are: flooding, fires, geological, biological and meteorological events. The recent database with historical data developed in 2015 "DesInventar Kosova"⁷ shows the main natural and other disaster risks in Kosovo. In total, according to DesInventar findings, approximately 14400 persons are affected by disaster every year, around 1÷2 persons lose their lives, whereas the economic damages reach €8.5 million with 1228 houses and 1261 hectares of land struck by disasters. Kosovo is affected by natural disasters as follows: forest fires (74 %), mainly in Prishtina, Kamenica and Deçan; flooding (82%), mainly in Ferizaj, Rahovec and Skënderaj; Meteorological events (39%) specifically in Podujeva, Ferizaj and Gjakova. Natural disasters are considered as phenomena that affect the security and lawful state.⁸ Taking into account the low level of social and economic development, as well as the increasing environmental problems, natural risk disaster in Kosovo is considered to have significant damages to socio-economic development.⁹

⁵ The Government of Kosovo, 2009, Risk Assessment against Natural and other Disasters,

⁶ UNDP, 2011, Report on DRR Assessment Capacities.

⁷ Emergency Management Agency, 2015, DesInventarKosovo, <http://desinventar.cimafoundation.org/DesInventar/profiletab.jsp?countrycode=rks&continue=y>, accessed on December 11, 2015.

⁸ The Government of Kosovo, 2014, Analysis of Strategic Security Sector.

⁹ Zupka, 2014, , Integration of Risk Reduction for Investments.

2.4.2. Background of natural and technological disaster risk

The effort to reduce natural disaster risks in Kosovo, same as in the world, is a problem that deteriorated in the last 15 years of transition, that is due to the phenomenon of climate change, industrialization of the country, damages caused during the war, informal settlements, lack of plans and non-implementation of environment protection measures, forestry and riverbeds degradation and waste disposal. Based on the statistics provided by DesInventar¹⁰, the number of disasters marked an increasing trend by years in 1999÷2014, starting with the overview of the forest fires below:

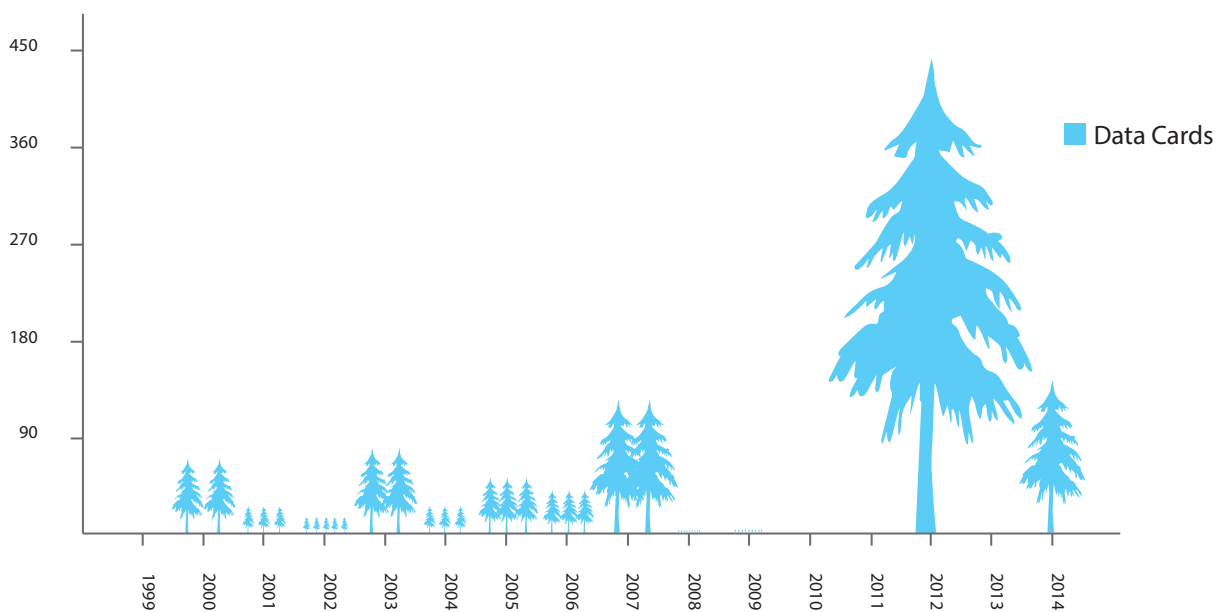


CHART 1. Time trends of forest fires in 1999÷2014 (DesInventar Kosova , 2014).

¹⁰ Emergency Management Agency, 2015, DesInventarKosovo, <http://desinventar.cimafoundation.org/DesInventar/profiletab.jsp?countrycode=rks&continue=y>, accessed on December 11, 2015.

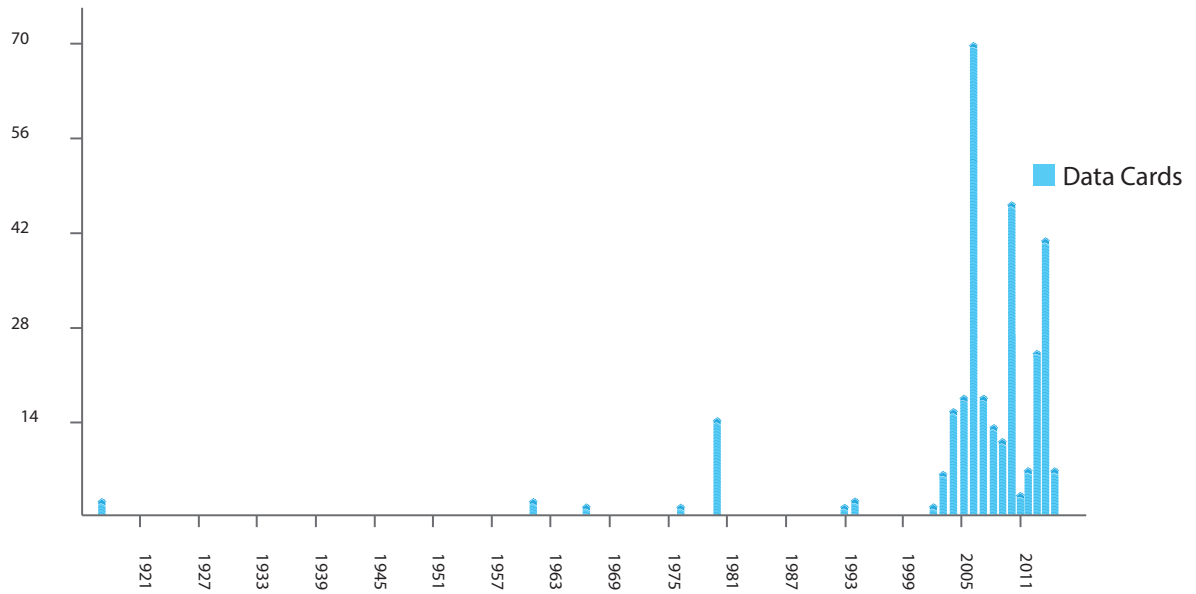


CHART 2. Time trends of forest fires in 1916÷2015.

As for flash floods and flooding the same trend is noticed, where phenomena is increasing on yearly basis, almost 90% of a total of 264 occurrences that occurred in 2000÷2014. Overall the number of occurrences is increasing reaching the maximum quota (68 events) in 2006. In the last 15 years, at least one flooding occurred each year in the country, approximately 18 events per year.

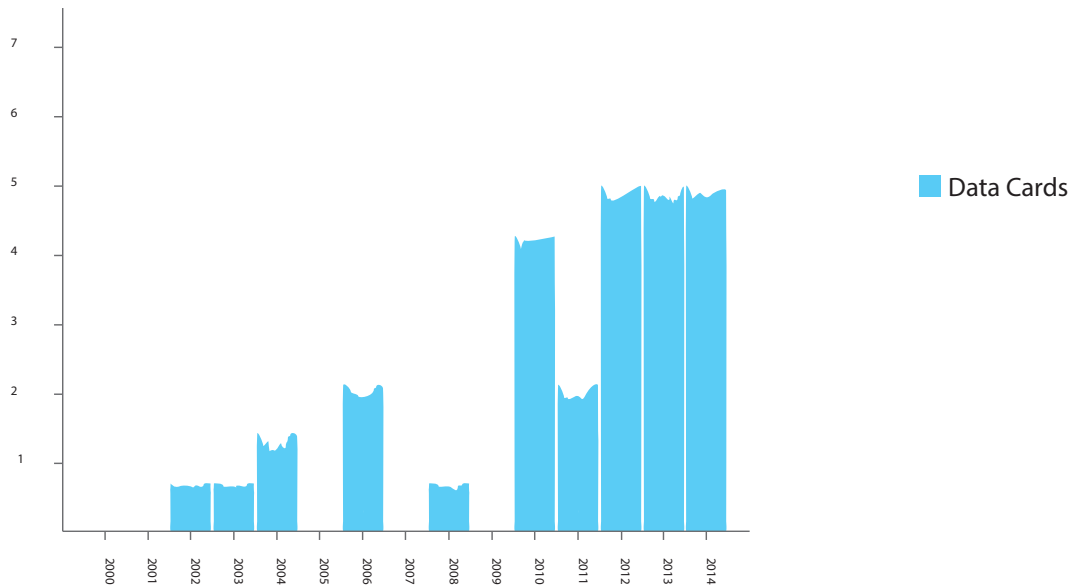


CHART 3: Time trends of landslides: 2000-2014.

Based on the natural disaster history, landslides marked a gradual increase especially in 2012-2014, by approximately 2 occurrences per year.

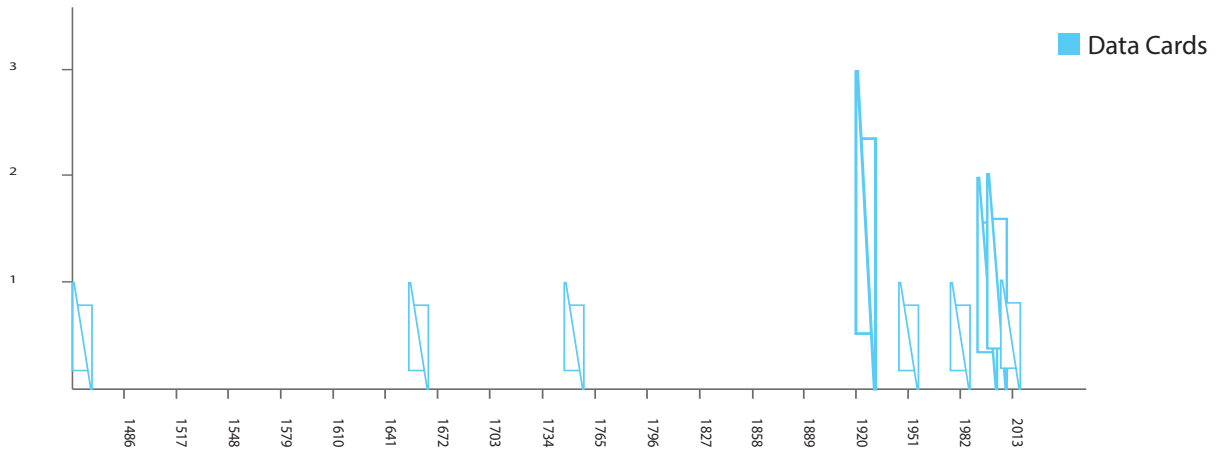


CHART 4. Time trends of earthquakes, period: 1456-2014.

The earthquakes in 1851 ÷ 2013 also reflect an increasing trend in the last 20 years. However, this could also be as a consequence of lack of data prior to 1993, when only large scale natural disasters were registered.

In terms of monetary terms data from past disasters also from DesInventar reflect an increasing trend of economic losses since 2000. For instance this is demonstrated in the following graph on floods for the period 2000-2014.

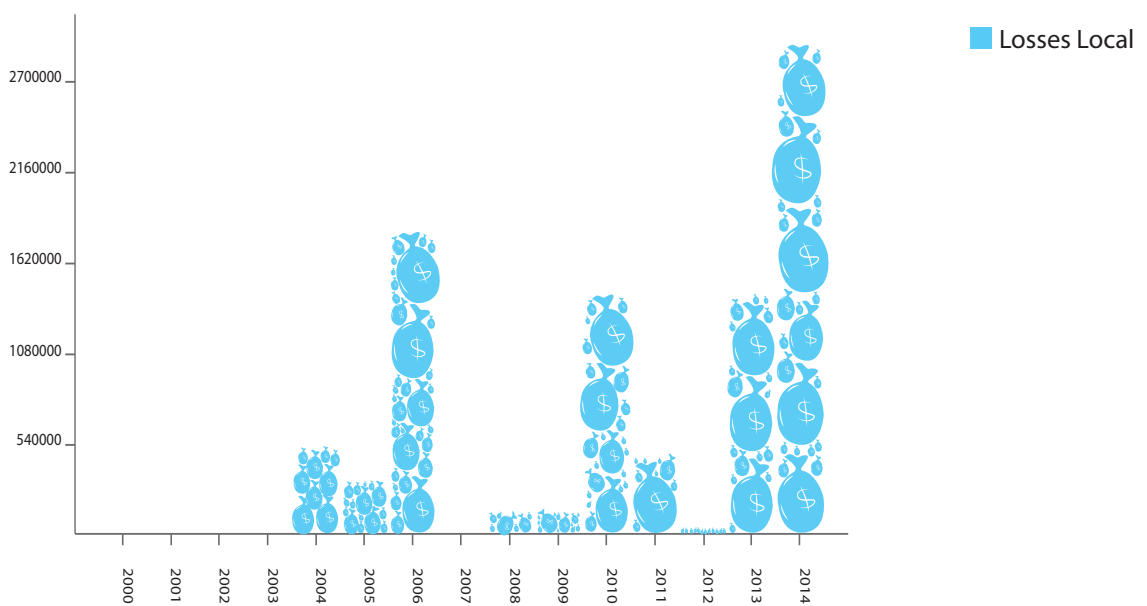


CHART 5: Economic losses (in EUR) from floods in the time period 2000-2014 according to DesInventar

2.4.3. Comparison with regional countries

Kosovo, being a country in transition as a result of 1998-1999 war and with a low economic and social development, faces more challenges as far as DRR is concerned. Compared to the regional countries, such as: Albania, Montenegro, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo established new state institutions, which mainly started prioritizing more the DRR by the end of 2000s.

In general, as mentioned, due to low economic, social and environmental development, natural disaster risk for Kosovo is significant because of high probability of population that may be affected (high vulnerability).

2.4.4. Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats analysis

STRENGTHS:	WEAKNESSES:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicable legislation¹ sets the duties, responsibilities and mechanisms of institutional coordination. 2. EMA is a coordinating institution for NDOD in Kosovo. 3. The program of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo includes DRR in the Declaration of Medium-term Policies Priority 2014-2016. 4. There is a vast spectre of governmental and non-governmental institutions involved and active in the area of DRR. 5. Adjustment of the program and plan of activities to increase the awareness of both levels of governance about NDOD. 6. There are national basic documents: Document of the Risk Assessment of Natural and Other Disasters Document on Risk Assessment (national and local level) and the National Response Plan. 7. Public and private institutions of high education provide accredited courses on DRR. 8. MEST approved the Kosovo Curricula Framework and the Core Curricula. 9. Kosovo institutions carried out activities on DRR, but they were not defined as such. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DRR system including laws, policies and regulations is still unconsolidated. 2. Kosovo institutions lack capacities for management of natural and other disasters.² 3. Kosovo has more mechanisms focusing on emergency management of natural and other disasters, instead of their prevention and reduction. 4. Disaster Risk reduction is not included sufficiently in government plans and policies 5. There is a lack of clear mechanisms of responsibility and accountability for implementation of laws and policies related to DRR. 6. DRR is not yet a priority of the government for allocation of necessary means from the national budget, including prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. 7. There are insufficient technical and organizational capacities for natural and other disasters risk management including early notification and alert system 8. Inter-institutional coordination on DRR is still at its early stage. 9. DRR statistics and database are still very limited. 10. Lack of access to live data including the location and space data, such as Geographic Information System (GIS) on DRR. 11. Little implementation of awareness activities and community awareness for creating a safe and resilient community 12. Traditional knowledge and practices are not sufficiently integrated in the DRR system.

OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kosovo aims to implement the Sendai Framework for Action (2015-2030). 2. There is a bilateral agreement for support with Turkey, Croatia, as well as agreements for cooperation with Macedonia and Albania. 3. The Disaster Inventory Management System (DesInventar) in order to consistently draft policies and plans. 4. Supplement of the current legal framework with broader inclusion of the emergency management cycle: prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. 5. Inclusion of risk assessment in the development plans. 6. Development and coordination of warning and early warning and alert system at all levels of governance. 7. Inclusion of Euro-codes and seismic micro zonation, as well as the scientific researches in the development (spatial, urban, infra-structural, etc.) plans. 8. The presence of international organisations provides a good opportunity for support of and implementation of this strategy. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low level of economic and social development is one of the indicators that disasters in Kosovo might have major consequences. 2. Insufficient funding of DRR in the government and foreign donors' programmes. 3. Kosovo is not a member of UN and relevant international mechanisms, which causes the lack of funds and means benefited from different grants of the international programmes for DRR capacity building. 4. Construction infrastructure and treating of river banks as a result of lack of urban planning and concrete projects does not meet the DRR requirements. 5. Non-implementation of applicable legal provisions increases natural and other disaster risks. 6. Overload of inter-institutional coordinating mechanisms with bureaucratic and administrative formalities, which would decelerate the flow of information and decision making. 7. Listing of new risks is a continuous challenge. 8. Non-implementation of strategy in the whole territory of Kosovo.

This strategy specifically addresses these problems related to Kosovo's capacities to cope with natural disasters:

- Lack of inclusion of disaster risk reduction in development policies and plans.¹¹
- There is a need for capacity building and strengthening of governmental institutions in early warning.¹²
- The need of drafting, developing of programmes and trainings to establish secure and sustainable anti-disaster communities.
- Listing of new risks, analysis and prevention measures are a continuous challenge for successful implementation of this strategy.

¹¹ Zupka, 2014, Integration of Risk Reduction for Investments.

¹² The Government of Kosovo, 2014, Analysis of Strategic Security Sector.

2.4.5. Addressing by the Government

The Government of Kosovo is committed to undertake all necessary measures to address above-mentioned issues, also accounting for the support of the strategic international partners, such as the organisations: United Nations, European Union, bilateral and multilateral agreements as well the donors.

2.4.6. Existing and planned activities

The Emergency Management Agency, as a coordinating body of DRR carried out some activities in this area with agencies that are planned to also continue in the period covered by this strategy, such as:

Early warning system

EMA will, in cooperation with the Hydrometeorology Institute of Kosovo (HIK) and the Kosovo Geological Survey/Division of Seismology, institutions responsible for monitoring and early warning of natural events that cause natural disasters, establish an effective system of electronic communication between these two institutions and EMA, in regard to early warning of natural disasters, so that it could serve EMA for drafting of a natural disaster plan and risk prevention or reduction activities, in cases when these disasters are alerted by the responsible institutions.

Establishment of a history of natural disaster data - DesInventar

EMA in cooperation with the organisations of the United Nations (UNDP and UNISDR) established the first historic database on Kosovo natural disasters -DesInventar, which will be a starting point for analysing the key factors and will serve to the governmental institutions and scientific researchers to draft DRR plans and prevention measures.

Public communication and awareness of citizens on DRR

The central institutions support the local governance and developing communities on implementation of risk reduction plans, response mechanisms, training of response teams in the community and risk mapping. EMA continuously updates DesInventar with data from the governmental and local institutions and informs the public continuously by updating its web site (<http://ame.rks-gov.net/>) with the latest information on emergency events and effects in the country.

Addressing the risk factors

In the spirit of Sendai Framework, EMA coordinates relevant cross-cultural mechanisms against natural and other disasters in Kosovo through the Inter-ministerial Council and the Secretariat for monitoring of development of the strategy and action plan.

Human capacity building

EMA continuously, through trainings and courses, supports the key players of relevant central and local institutions whose responsibility and duty is the emergency management.

International cooperation

EMA is a participant in international projects:

- Building resilience to disasters in the Balkans and Turkey¹³ including the support for regional capacity building in the area of cross-border and cross-regional cooperation, as well as the exchange of information.
- The EU IPA Programme on Civil Protection¹⁴ aiming to provide/exchange the best practices from EU countries and the region on the early alert system, monitoring, support of the host countries and emergency operational centres -112.
- UNDP/UN is committed through its project: Kosovo Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative and other future projects to continue supporting and strengthening of governing capacities at central and local level, as necessary.
- The European Commission, through IPA Programme (Civil Protection II and Flooding) will continuously support the Government of Kosovo in effective disaster management by exchanging experiences with other neighbouring countries and through practical desk exercises.
- The Red Cross Federation will support the community assisting with: response against disasters, monitoring and reporting through its volunteers.
- International organizations: UNICEF, Save the Children and UNDP will continue the support through school programmes and other activities at the education institutions for implementation of DRR.

¹³ UNISDR, Preventionweb, <http://www.preventionweb.net/ipadrr/>, accessed on December 11, 2015.

¹⁴ European Union, Program of the European Instrument for Cooperation on Civil Protection for accession and potential candidate countries, <http://www.ipacivilprotection.eu/index.html>, accessed on December 11, 2015.

CHAPTER III:

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

VISION – development of a fruitful, effective and comprehensive system for natural and technological disaster risk reduction, integrated emergency management system that would contribute in the increase of security and sustainable development in the country.

MISSION– Development of an integrated system for protection and rescue, creation of conditions for building of a sustainable society to confront natural and technological disasters in the Republic of Kosovo.

PURPOSE- of the Strategy is to contribute in achieving the sustainable development, integration of disaster risk reduction to development plans and policies and community capacity building to confront with disasters.

SCOPE- the Strategy focuses on natural disasters and other types of disasters including technological Disasters that affect Kosovo. A full list of these threats are included in the Document for the Risk Assessment¹⁵ devised in 2009 and revised in 2016. Regarding critical infrastructure and other security threats these will be dealt with in other legislation¹⁶ that is currently being drafted and hence not included in this strategy.

3.1. STRATEGIC GOALS AND MEASURES TO BE TAKEN

STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Integration of risk reduction to development plans and policies and oversight

There is no appropriate environment as: disaster mechanisms ne to be strengthened especially those related to DRR, political engagement of the institutions is low and also there is no budget for DRR. Institutions have no specific capacities for natural and other disasters and laws and strategies are not properly followed up with monitoring mechanisms.

The Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy determines the will of the Institutions of the Republic of Kosovo for cooperation, coordination and unified approach of the central and local institutions and international partnership to confront with natural and technical-technological disasters, and the challenges resulting from them.

¹⁵ The Government of Kosovo, 2016, Risk Assessment against Natural and other Disasters.

¹⁶ The Government of Kosovo, 2016, Draft Law on Critical Infrastructure and its Protection.

Disaster risk reduction is not a separate science, but it is closely related to all development policies and processes of a state. Development of developmental policies and plans both at central and local level, taking also into account the role of private sector and civil society, requires multi-dimensional and proper involvement in the area of disaster risk reduction, especially in the area of spatial planning, developmental plans, implementation of construction codes, climatic adaptation, health, infrastructure, agriculture and forestry, education, etc. By including the integration of plans and policies by line ministries at a higher level for DRR is in compliance with the international standards.

2. Strengthening of capacities for natural and other disaster risk management

Risk governance, according to Sendai Framework,¹⁷ should be built by understanding disaster risk including the aspects of risk, vulnerability and capacity building.

With reference to the SWOT analysis, understanding the natural and other disaster risk phenomena remains insufficient for Kosovo institutions, especially towards the emergency response. Also there is a lack of support and sense of understanding that natural and other disasters must be priority in capacity development, leaving it with less financial and human support. The new risks are also not analysed appropriately and the natural and other disaster risks assessments in the municipal plans are not carried out according to the standards, therefore, human and technical capacity building is important, as well as the clear determination of the roles and responsibilities of the DRR system.

Strengthening of DRR system requires investments in scientific and technical capacities and treatment as an essential component for economic and social development to produce the necessary effects with alert information that is registered, researched, predicted, analysed and modelled for disasters that might threaten the country, it is of special importance that the scientific institutions dealing with monitoring, processing and researching of the causes of natural disasters to enable an effective prevention and as less damages as possible from natural disasters.

DRR system to be strengthened in the aspect of monitoring, assessment and promotion of data related to risks/disasters in a comprehensive manner that would enable further researches and development of the system.

3. Creation of safe and resilient communities from disasters

Disasters take a higher toll at communities unprepared to confront with natural and other disasters. In order to have a community safe and resilient from disasters, there is a need to raise the level of institutional and social awareness with long-term awareness programme approaches and concrete investments in many fields, such as: education and school curricula, disaster management in

¹⁷ United Nations, 2015, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, <http://www.unisdr.org/inform/publications/43291>, accessed on December 11, 2015.

the community and the use of knowledge and research to build a sustainable society.

Taking into account the social, gender, economic and cultural diversity aspect in Kosovo, special attention should be given to the most vulnerable communities, such as: persons with disabilities, communities that live in extreme poverty, communities concentrated in natural disaster areas as well as the drafting of plans and programmes with the purpose of educating and raising awareness of the communities, especially of the children and the new generation. Scrutiny of these plans and programmes as well as their pragmatic, practical and careful implementation and institutional commitment, both the central and local level, followed with an awareness and outreach campaign, through portals, media, leaflets, radio, newspapers, social networks, etc. provides for the creation of a safe and resilient community, but sustainable, towards disasters.

4. Awareness raising and urging of institutions and entities about natural and other disaster risks

Kosovo, as a developing new country, with new institutions and systems, some of them with profound fragility, but with a clear aim for sustainable strengthening and functionalizing, with pre-conditions and opportunities for a rapid development in many areas, faces with unexpected challenges both in the natural disaster and technical-technological aspects.

Awareness raising and urging of institution sand institutional mechanisms through legal regulations, incentives and persuasive innovations, researches and scientific works, provision and allocation of necessary financial and logistical resources, as well as undertaking of structural and non-structural measures for better management of risks.

Promotion of protocols, exchange of information and regional cooperation to facilitate the exchange of capacities and the creation of facilities for emergency response during and after disasters.

Encouraging policies and programmes that address development of standards, concrete plans, human and material mobility to establish the SPRA, and their training.

Promotion of mobilization, organization, certification and structuring of the private sector, civil society, different organisations and associations for professional support in the area of search-rescue, health, etc.

Migration of population, especially expansion and over-population of cities and rapid technical-technological development, may bring new phenomena and natural and technological disasters in the future, presenting threats and disasters for Kosovo.

Exploration of more advanced methods and programmes from experienced countries with more developed systems, requires coordination, exchange of information and involvement of necessary mechanisms of institutions, as well as the merging of these experiences and expertises into detailed plans in order to achieve the effect for risk reduction deriving from rapid development as a result of globalisation, rapid economic development, migrations, epidemics and climate change.

MEASURES TO BE TAKEN

1. Integration of risk reduction to development plans and policies and oversight

- 1.1. Integration of disaster risk reduction policies and implementation of legal framework for risk management and governing;
- 1.2. Strengthening of institutional mechanisms and capacities of responsible institutions at the central and local level for implementation of the strategy;
- 1.3. Lobbying for political engagement and taking of responsibilities and accountability;
- 1.4. Increase of financial support for disaster risk reduction;
- 1.5. Compliance of sector laws/policies with the risk assessment and management standards;
- 1.6. Establishment of an oversight body for implementation of Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy.

2. Strengthening of capacities for natural and other disaster risk management

- 2.1. Increase of skills for generation of information (statistics and different data) on natural and other disasters;
- 2.2. Strengthening of capacities for collection, assessment and analysing of information, as well as continuous update of the database on natural disasters, Des-Inventar;
- 2.3. Expansion of new capacities of the institutions at central and local level for early alert systemizing;
- 2.4. Increase of inter-institutional cooperation and coordination on early alert related to natural disaster risk reduction;
- 2.5. Support of researches, exchange of information and cooperation with scientific and academic institutions aiming to reduce the existing risks and prevent the new risks;
- 2.6. Understanding disaster risk and its dimensions.

3. Creation of safe and resilient communities from disasters

- 3.1. Improvement of communication and dissemination of information between the relevant institutions about natural disaster risk reduction;
- 3.2. Inclusion of knowledge on disaster risk reduction to the education curricula;
- 3.3. Awareness raising and sensitizing the community about the importance of natural disaster risk reduction through media campaigns, social networks, trainings, exercises and protection measures;
- 3.4. Organization and building of structures for protection-rescue and help (SPRA);
- 3.5. Involvement and organization of youth and civil society in SPRA in order to reduce the risk from natural disasters;
- 3.6. Involvement of vulnerable community (pregnant women, children, old people, persons with chronic disease, persons with disabilities, etc.) in drafting of plans for risk management.

4. Awareness raising and urging of institutions and entities on natural and other disaster risks

- 4.1. Promotion and development of instruments and programmes that draft standards, codes, operational instructions, plans, projects, etc.
- 4.2. Improvement of communication and exchange of information between relevant institutions in risk identification and assessment;
- 4.3. Deepening of integration of strategy and coordination of the activities of the relevant institutions in the risk identification process, assessment and taking of protection measures;
- 4.4. Development of quality standards such as certification and acknowledgement for disaster risk management with participation of the private sector, civil society, organisations and associations;
- 4.5. Promotion and support of agreements for regional and international cooperation;
- 4.6. Provision of quality information, assessment, developing of statistics/databases as well as monitoring of trends related to new risks and natural disasters;
- 4.7. Promotion of protocols, exchange of information and regional cooperation to facilitate the exchange of capacities and the creation of facilities for emergency response during and after disasters.

CHAPTER IV:

CONSIDERED ALTERNATIVES

This Strategy is based on the best regional and international practices that address similar problems in the area of DRR:

- National Disaster Risk Reduction and Civil Protection 2014-2018, the Republic of Albania;
- Croatian DRR Strategy, a strategy that is based on scientific research;
- Macedonian DRR Strategy;
- National Platform for Natural Disasters (PLANAT);
- European Strategy for Supporting Disaster Risk Reduction in developing countries (2009).

Upon taking into consideration these models, Kosovo decided to be based on the Swiss model, a strategy that is built on its specific context and in compliance with the Sendai Framework and the European Strategy. The main model is based on the inter-ministerial working group, which drafted this Strategy on a step by step basis.

CHAPTER V:

LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The document reviewed and is in line with national and international plans and strategies in the area of environment: Kosovo Climate Change Strategy (2014-2024); Strategy of Kosovo Waters; Basic Document of the Republic of Kosovo; SIME; Security Strategy, Millennium Development Goals and Sendai Framework for Action (2015-2030). Furthermore, this Strategy is based on European mechanisms such as: European Union Strategy on Internal Security and European Strategy for Risk Reduction Support about natural and other disasters in the developing countries.¹⁸

The DRR Strategy is mainly based on the Law No 04/L-027 on natural and other disasters as well as the Document of the Risk Assessment of Natural and Other Disasters Document on Risk Assessment (approved in 2009 and reviewed in 2015). During the drafting of this Strategy, the inter-ministerial working group also consulted other laws that are relevant to or contains in itself dealing with or regulation of DRR area, directly or indirectly, such as:

- Law on Protection of Environment No 2009/03-L-025;
- Law on Assessment of Impact in the Environment No 2010/03-L-214;
- Law on Protection against Fires No 2011/04-L-012;
- Law on Security Council of Kosovo No.2008/03-L050;
- Law on Management of Public Finances No. 2013/04-L-194;
- Law on the Ministry of Kosovo Security Corps No 2008/03-L045;
- Law on Police No 2011/04-L-076; Law on Public Health No 2007/02-L-78;
- Law on Emergency Health Service No. 2006/02-L-50;
- Law on Red Cross of Kosovo No. 2010/03-L-179;
- Law on Local Governance No 2008/03-L-040;
- Law on Spatial Planning No 2012/04-L-174;
- Law No 04/L-188 on Treating of illegal constructions;
- Law on Construction No 04/L-110,
- Law No 2003/3 Forestry of Kosovo; Law on Environment No03/L-02 and
- Law on Kosovo Waters No 2004/24.

The Strategy directly contributes in managing of natural and other disasters¹⁹as part of the Government Plan, specifically in the objective "Conducting of separate studies to prevent natural disaster emergencies and the preparation and improvement of the way the civil capacity reacts."

In addition, the Government drafted the Declaration of Medium-term Policies Priority 2014-2016 where priority is given to management of emergency situations.

¹⁸ UNISDR, Preventionweb, <http://www.preventionweb.net/ipadrr/>, accessed on December 2015.

¹⁹ Kosovo Government, 2013, Program of the Kosovo Republic Government 2015-2018, http://www.kryeministri-ks.net/repository/docs/programi_i_qeverise_shqip.pdf, accessed on December 11, 2015.

It will continue with the existing policies:

- Increasing of action skills;
- Completion of the infrastructure with necessary means and equipment, as well as the construction of facilities for NJPZSH;
- Support to the operations of managing the situations of disturbing of public order and public riots;
- Continuance of cooperation with the IPA Programme/European Commission on capacity building;
- Establishing of a National Centre for Emergency Situations Management;
- Development of exercise programmes, and assessment of emergency preparedness in the area of general public security.²⁰

The roles and responsibilities of central and local institutions within DRR

Central Government

1. Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)

Based on the mission and duties of MIA, its role within DRRS is increase of security level and protection of the citizens of the Republic of Kosovo, with special attention to the emergency management of natural disasters and other disasters.

2. Ministry of Finance (MF)

Ministry of Finance has an essential role for effective implementation of DRRS. It analyses the budgetary requirements for implementation of DRRS and in cooperation with the Oversight Council it approves the budget.

3. Ministry of Environment of Spatial Planning (MESP)

The role of MESP, based on its mission and duties, definitely is the main responsible institution in achieving the set goals and measures of DRRS, with its oversight role and active participation in monitoring of the strategy.

MESP, through DRRS aims to develop integrating policies of many different sectors in order to create the conditions for protection of health and environment from natural disasters and other disasters in the areas of radioactive radiation, construction, pollution of air, water and land, measuring of atmospheric rainfalls, surface and underground waters, alerting of occurrence of elementary hydrometeorology disasters, etc. as well as providing of scientific and professional support on environmental policies of the country.

²⁰ Kosovo Government, 2013, Declaration of Medium-term Policies Priority 2014-2016.

4. Ministry of Economic Development (MED)

The role of MED in implementation of DRRS includes activities in: the Sector of Energy and Mines, the Sector of Energy Efficiency and Sources of Renewable Energy, the Geologic Service of Kosovo, Postal Sector, the Telecommunication Sector, the Sector of Information Technology.

5. Kosovo Security Force (KSF)

The role of KSF in implementation of DRRS includes the whole cycle of emergency management, however the primary goal of this entity is determined the preparedness and response stage, to carry out operational actions in cases of natural disaster and other disasters in Kosovo and abroad, such as: operations of civil protection within Kosovo, to support civil authorities in reacting against natural disasters and other disasters. KSF has an important role in the search and rescue operations, elimination of explosives, control and clearance of hazardous subjects and other tasks related to humanitarian assistance.

6. Ministry of European Integration (MEI)

The role of MEI in DRRS includes support for reforms on civil emergency area of Kosovo in its path towards the European Union. It achieves this role by aligning the policies of the Republic with those of the EU, and also approximating its legislation with acquis of EU civil emergencies. Furthermore, MEI facilitates and supports the cooperation between the local institutions and the European Commission in achieving of high standards, knowledge, responsibilities and transparency in the area of civil emergency.

7. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)

The role of MFA is promotion and protection of national, cultural and economic policies of Kosovo in the world, development of good neighbourly relations and regional cooperation with common interest, through bilateral and multilateral agreements including the area of management of emergencies, contributing in risk reduction.

This Ministry is the main contacting body of communication in case of request for provision or receiving of assistance for supporting the country struck by natural disasters and other disasters, but also for international cooperation in other activities in the area of emergency management.

8. Ministry of Infrastructure (MI)

The role of MI is providing of a technical, professional, development and organisational solution for maintenance, construction, reconstruction and security of railways, highways, national and regional roads as well as the air traffic. In order to reduce the risk from natural disasters and other disasters, it collects data on traffic and security, advises and notifies the institutions and citizens on the situation of the network of roads, railways and air traffic, as well as the factors that may have an impact in the communication network.

9. Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST)

The role of MEST, in compliance with the national development priorities, is to ensure quality education system that guarantees safety and protection of pupils and school staff. This will be achieved by creating secure school environments according to necessary parameters and standards for disaster risk reduction, including in the curricula contents that make the pupils and youth aware of and trained prevention and protection from disasters. MEST will have an added role in fulfilling the objectives of DRRS through capacity building at the central, local and school level in preparation for prevention, response and reduction of disaster risk. Also MEST, in cooperation and collaboration with the stakeholders and other institutions will encourage and support different incentives to help pupils, youth, teachers, school staff, as well as parents and the community to gain the necessary skills to face with different disaster situations. This would ensure a safe, healthy and sustainable environment.

10. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD)

The measures to be taken by MAFRD to achieve DRRS objectives are found in the policy to assist in administration and management of forestry sector, including also protection, reforestation activities, self-containment, prevention and protection from fire, disinfection against insects and different diseases, tree cutting licensing, control of hunting and fishing; provides veterinary services, including among others prevention of animal diseases, zoo zone and improvement of the quality of flock of birds, whereas in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning supervises the implementation of health standards related to agriculture, forestry, rural development, centres of fish cultivation, quality control of food and agricultural raw material in order to protect the customers.

11. Ministry of Communities and Returns (MCR)

The role of this Ministry on DRR is multidimensional, but some of its functions should be highlighted that fall under this Ministry based on its duties and responsibilities and specifics:

- supervision of the implementation of the strategy within its scope at the central and local level, addresses to communities for help, supports development and implementation of strategy in all municipalities assisting integration of policies in the plans concerning risk reduction under equal conditions for all communities and their members;
- coordinates with ministries, municipalities and other authorities for implementation of DRRS, based on the principle of protection and self-protection in natural disasters and other disasters, respecting the human rights, in order to ensure promotion and protection of rights of the members of all communities, paying special attention to women, children, the elder and other vulnerable groups;
- assists in development and implementation of measures in the field of public information and other promotion projects related to raising of public awareness on the rights and interests of the communities and their members about the protection from natural disasters and other disasters as well as undertaking of measures for natural disaster risk reduction in cooperation with and encouragement of the private sector and businesses.

12. Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW)

The role of Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare in DRRS is carried out through policies, programs and documents, for which we could already say that are duty of permanent care on economic and social RR as well as with a human character. The ways to implement DRR are: strengthening and creation of space for social welfare, creation of employment and vocational training infrastructure that would increase the quality of service delivery for citizens that are in social need, also it provides services for the categories of retired persons pursuant to the applicable legislation, it continues the commitment towards citizens with special needs regardless of their ethnicity, religion, gender and race, from children to the old people that lack family care.

MLSW continues provision of family sheltering services for children that have no relatives and family sheltering for children that have no parental care.

It provides financial and social support, emergent and permanent, through institutions or services established for this purpose for citizens in need.

13. Ministry of Health (MH)

It follows the health situation and implements adequate measures to prevent and control problems in the area of health, supporting participation, initiatives and development of activities of the community related to health and protection of environment. It participates in development and implementation of outreach campaigns and other promotional projects for adults to raise public awareness in compliance with health standards, encourages development of health education and the environment for increasing of knowledge and competences in the area of health and protection of environment. It monitors and analyzes the situation of the environment, especially the impact of the industrial activity, public services and economic activity, as they are related to the protection of environment.

In cooperation with other relevant Ministries, it identifies areas that need protection for the good of population, creates the policy of activities in the health sector to promote coherent development and implementation of measures for DRR.

14. Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS)

The role of Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports in DRRS is undertaking of measures and development of activities for preservation, protection and presentation, restoring and conversation of cultural heritage, architectural heritage, movable heritage, spiritual heritage, Integrated Conservation and cultural panorama, as well as inventorying and documentation of cultural heritage of Kosovo.

15. Ministry of Public Administration (MPA)

Establishing of a modern, sustainable and unbiased public administration in the service of citizens and businesses and delivery of quality administrative services and functional infrastructure for governing institutions.

16. Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI)

It provides direct technical support and advice on procurement of external consulting services to assess the structural security and the security from fire of buildings life lines (public services).

17. Ministry of Diaspora (MD)

The role of Ministry of Diaspora on DRRS is urging of scientific and techno-technological cooperation, exchange of experiences and the best practices for RR from NDOD of the relevant countries. Creation of conditions for capital investments by migrants in their homeland in order to reduce and prevent the NDOD risks.

18. Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA)

The role of MLGA on DRRS is supporting and enhancing of the local governance in strengthening the structures to supervise this strategy and ensuring implementation of the action plan activities that are related to the local level.

Other central institutions and agencies

Other central institutions and agencies play an important role in implementation of DRRS based on their mission, duties and responsibilities in the area of DRR.

Seismological Institute of Kosovo

Based on its mission the Seismological Institute of Kosovo will focus on meeting the objectives through the following priorities

1. Effective functioning of the Seismic Network of Kosovo

- 1.1. Continuous and accurate monitoring of seismic events in the territory of Kosovo and beyond.
- 1.2. Urgent notification of the state competent bodies, in case an earthquake of ≥ 3.5 magnitude strikes within the territory of Kosovo.
- 1.3. Monitoring on seismicity, active seismic faults and seismic-tectonics for the territory of Kosovo.

2. Vulnerability and seismic risk analysis and studies

- 2.1. Seismologic and seismic-tectonic studies for a deeper knowledge of seismic activity and seismicity in Kosovo, as well as seismic risk assessment.
- 2.2. Local seismic risk studies and assessment for inhabited areas, overly necessary information for physical and urban planning in the seismic areas.
- 2.3. Determination of mechanism of source, released energy, type and limit of the seismic source in the territory of Kosovo.

3. Preparation of maximum intensity map on annual basis

- 3.1. Insertion of seismic events for our territory in the MapInfo programme and separation of the surface in each 5km² to assess the spreading of the maximum intensity, for magnitudes higher than $M > 1$.
- 3.2. Implementation of maximum intensity map and epicentres of earthquakes on annual basis.

4. Seismologic services with a special social interest

- 4.1. Registration of earthquakes and other seismic phenomena caused by natural or artificial source.
- 4.2. Establishment, protection and development of monitoring seismologic network stations, respectively seismographic network and the strong shakes related network.
- 4.3. Collection and analysis of data related to earthquakes and other seismic phenomena, their causes and consequences.

Non-Governmental and Voluntary Organizations

The role of NGOs in DRRS is supporting of state institutions by providing assistance through awareness campaigns on DRR. The voluntary organizations provide their capacities by significantly helping on managing of incidents at all levels.

Local government

Mayors of Municipalities

- Establish and supervise the professional working group in drafting the Municipal Document on Risk Assessment from NDOD and take care of its implementation.
- Appoint the staff of Committee for Protection and Rescue for emergency cases.
- Establish/appoint professional working and supervising group for drafting of spatial and urban planning, by drafting also concrete projects as prevention measures.
- Are responsible for and tasked with other protection duties to undertake concrete measures in the area of Emergency Management.

Red Cross of Kosova

As the only national association, the Red Cross operates according to the Law on Red Cross of Kosovo Nr 2010/03-L-179 assisting local authorities on humanitarian issues in the whole country. It works with MKSF; EMA/MIA; other central, regional and local governmental entities and other NGOs to ensure raising of awareness of population and governmental institutions on DRR and coordinates integration of needs for humanitarian assistance in emergency cases.

CHAPTER VI:

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation of Strategy is followed with concrete measurable and realistic indicators that are in compliance with the international standards.

To monitor the fulfilment of the Strategy's targets, an Oversight Council will be established at a national level, which will be responsible for meeting the strategy's targets of the central level institutions, whose main aim is natural and other disaster risk reduction.

- The Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo/Minister of MIA is the oversight authority of the Council, which requires responsibilities and provides institutional and administrative support.
- The Oversight Council is the only authority for DRRS oversight at central and local level, which oversees the progress of investments, work and overall engagement towards achievement of the targets and measures of the strategy.
- The Ministries and central agencies, prepare periodic reports on achievement of the DRR action plan under their jurisdiction, and also address gaps and challenges of the respective scope to the Oversight Council.

The Municipal Council for DRR established by the Mayor of the municipality takes the duties and responsibilities for monitoring and implementation of the Strategy, for all activities, progress, investments towards achieving of the targets and measures of the strategy, is consulted with the Inter-Ministerial Council and informs it, based on the principle of hierarchy and subordination.

The work of the Oversight Council will be led by these objectives:

1. Creation of a mechanism of cooperation and coordination for DRR at central and local level, in the private sector, civil society and international donors.
2. Support of the relevant institutions of DRR in collecting, processing and disseminating of information, as well as in the awareness raising programs, capacity building, scientific research and efficient management of knowledge.
3. Strengthening of activities that reduce vulnerability, exposure to natural and other disasters and the risk from generation of new threats.
4. Oversees the achieving of responsibilities, accountability and other activities of this strategy and strengthens the implementation of the Strategy's Action Plan.

Composition of the Inter-ministerial Council

To ensure effective monitoring and implementation of this Strategy there is a need for Inter-ministerial Council at a strategic/political level and the technical-professional secretariat.

The strategic-political level initially is proposed to be functionalized within the Inter-ministerial Council for Waters, which already functions within the Office of Prime Minister. This Council would ensure that the decisions deriving from this Strategy will be directly followed to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo.

- Water Council to be transformed in an Inter-ministerial Council for Waters, natural and other disaster risk reduction and Climate Change.
- The Government to issue a decision on the new composition and set the duties and responsibilities of the Inter-ministerial Council for Waters, natural and other disaster risk reduction and Climate Change.

Members of the Council are proposed to be the following:

- Prime Minister;
- Minister of Internal Affairs;
- Minister of Local Administration and Governance;
- Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning;
- Ministry of Infrastructure;
- Minister of Finances;
- Minister of Economic Development;
- Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development;
- Minister of Education, Science and Technology;
- Representatives of two municipalities;
- Donor's community, without a right to vote.

Secretariat of the Council

The Secretariat will be an existing permanent structure within the Council, which will be also filled with professional staff, with a member from the respective Ministries of the Inter-ministerial Council for Waters, disaster risk reduction and Climate Change.

Proposal of the DRRS working group:

The Head of the Secretariat to be appointed from a member of EMA/MIA.

The Oversight Authority to issue a decision on the composition of the Secretariat.

Duties of the Secretariat are:

- To coordinate activities of the institutions on risk reduction;
- To arrange regular meetings of the Council;

- To finalize, distribute and publish the reports of the Council to the Government;
- To organize conferences, seminars, trainings and workshops in the area of DRR; and
- Other tasks as requested by the Oversight Council.

7.3. Evaluation of costs for implementation of the DRR Strategy

Evaluation for each activity and the measures taken for implementation of the Strategy is calculated in the DRRS Action Plan. The financial resources to carry out the duties and activities that derive from this strategy will be from the budget of the Republic of Kosovo, the Fund of Emergency Budget and other incomes in compliance with the applicable laws of Kosovo, as well as the donations and joint projects. Within the cooperation with international partners, strong support is expected with grants and joint projects to support the implementation of DRR Strategy and the activities of the Action Plan.

The estimated cost of the Action Plan reaches the amount 468,500.01 Euro, which is calculated according to the second part of the document/AP of DRRS. The calculation is based in the costing model using the uniform price per unit and it is designed to comply with KASH, and also for integration in the annual budget planning process. In this regard, AP should be looked as a means of the strategic budget.

All cost evaluations were done in Euro, according to the 2015 prices.

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THE AIM OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR DRRS

Action plan (AP) is a constituent part of multi-sectoral Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy in Kosovo (DRRS) 2016 - 2018.

AP is an operative strategic document which informs all responsible institutions, donors and other partners in the security sector, for the key priorities which the Republic of Kosovo institutions must meet in the scope of their field. Priorities presented in AP reflect the strategic directions and the ways through which relevant institutions and their staff will develop specific plans for implementing the DRRS.

AP is an operational document whose aim is detailing the strategic priorities, results and actions, through which DRRS will positively influence the Integration of Risk Reduction in policies and development plans, empowering and increasing of capacities for early warning, creating safe and stable communities against disasters and prevention of new risks in Kosovo.

AP also provides a solid basis for donors coordination and it is one of the main components of the Wide Sectorial Approach that enables central and local level to position themselves as heads of the changes in the environmental and planning sector, while the donor community enables the concentration support on the strategic priorities of sustainable development policies of the vital environment

This plan is also based on the principles and dedication from the Framework Sendai for Risk Reduction from Disasters 2015-2030 approved during the Third World Conference of the UN held in Sendai, Japan, on 18 March 2015.

In addition, AP is a tool for strategic management and policy development, as it provides risk governance, understanding and management of risk, orientations towards structural development that contribute to reforming the system of early warning, the development of new risks etc. and changes that exceed the limits of political mandates and human resources.

AP is a dynamic document, as the Government of the Republic of Kosovo will use it carefully as an instrument for monitoring the implementation of projects to reduce the risks from natural and technological disasters, and as a tool of information regarding the various natural phenomena. Therefore, it is foreseen that AP should be updated regularly in close cooperation and coordination with all competent bodies.

Action	Indicators of success	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institutions	Timeline for realization/implementation	The financial cost and the source of financing	Comments
Strategic objective: 1. The integration of risk reduction in policies and development plans and the supervision						
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 1.1. Integration of disaster risk reduction policies and implementation of legal framework for risk management and governing.						
1.1.1. Building professional capacities in policies for DRR	# annual training for 30 participants for policies and emergency management # the capacities of participants training in policies and emergency management are built 60% during this period	DRRS Supervisory Council (SC)	IO, NGO, civil society and private sector	2016-2020	Administrative-EMA	Trainings will be held in EMA- KAPS
1.1.2. Creation of a responsible working group for integrating the policies DRR	# active participation of the working group members # number of integrated policies for DRR	SC of DRRS	Kosovo Government	2016-2017	Administrative	The group is created based on DRRS
1.1.3. Implementation of Risk Assessment by NOD	# approval of the risk assessment document from respective structures by NOD # periodic meetings between relevant representatives to monitor the implementation progress of Risk Assessment document	Kosovo Government, Ministry of Internal Affairs,	All the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo, IOs, NGOs, civil society and private sector	2016-2018		

1.1.4. Implementation of the Regulation on Assessment Methodology of Damages from Disasters	# Approval of the regulation by the Kosovo Government # trainings for the application of regulation into practice	State institutions, public and private sector	IO	2016-2020	Administrative	EMA- KAPS
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 1.2. Strengthening of institutional mechanisms and capacities of responsible institutions at the central and local level for implementation of the strategy.						
1.2.1. Identification of institutional mechanisms that need improvement.	# report to develop institutional mechanisms	SC of DRR	IO	2016-2020	Administrative	
1.2.2. Determination of the roles and responsibilities of main stakeholders	# 6 month roundtables with the main stakeholders # the compilation of a manual for the roles and responsibilities	SC of DRR	Line Ministries and Municipalities	2016-2020	Administrative	DRRS Annex
1.2.3. Developing the capacity of emergency services in Kosovo	# annual training for emergency services in Kosovo # technical assistance	SC of DRRS	Academy of Sciences and Arts of Kosovo (ASAK)	2016-2020	15,000 for three years	
1.2.4. Identification and assessment of needs for human resources and development of educational plan	# the number of participants in the process of identifying and assessing # Educational Plan for NOD	SC of DRRS	MEST, Ministry of Finance, UNICEF and Kosovo Red Cross (KRC)	Permanent	Administrative + Donors' assistance	

1.2.5. Continuous improvement of the professional development system	# Greater involvement of the institutions in the system # Increasing of supporting system level by beneficiaries	SC of DRRS	All the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo, IOs, NGOs, civil society and private sector	Permanent		
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 1.3. Lobbying for political engagement and taking of responsibilities and accountability.						
1.3.1. Orientation and destination of donations for DRRS	# Donors' participation for DRRS # Periodic reports from the SC secretariat	SC of DRRS	Government subsidies, sponsors' donations, other International & Local NGOs	2016-2020	Administrative	
1.3.2. Organizing a donors' conference for DRRS	# High participation of the main institutions at the conference # Analysis of needs for donations regarding DRRS	SC of DRRS	Sponsors' donations, NGOs and other international & local	2016-2020	Administrative	
1.3.3 Establishment of a mechanism for monitoring and implementing projects of donor funds	# Identified deficiencies in the procedures and mechanisms for monitoring # progress analysis in international projects achieving	SC of DRRS	Internal and External Auditor Ministry of Finance and civil society	2016-2020		
1.3.4. Raising the funds through taxes for DRR for the needs in the country and region	# identification of needs for contributions # drafting of a project budget	SC of DRRS	The Ministry of Finance (Insurance Companies), World Bank, and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	2016-2020		

Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 1.4. Increase of financial support for disaster risk reduction.						
1.4.1 Lobbying for financial support from external and internal donors and the interested parties	# periodic meetings with donors # annual Conferences at the central level	SC of DRRS	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of European Integration, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, US Embassy, USAID and IPA Program	2016-2020	9000 for three years	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 1.5. Compliance of sector laws/policies with the risk assessment and management standards.						
1.5.1 Identification of areas for harmonization	Drafting of new laws, supplement amending procedures of applicable laws and sublegal acts	SC of DRRS	Ministry of Justice, Relevant Ministries and IOs	2016-2020	Administrative	
1.5.2. Harmonization of sectoral laws with DRR's cycle	# analysis of laws that need harmonization # number of harmonized laws	SC of DRRS	Relevant ministries and consultancy support from international organizations	2016-2020	Support from donors	
1.5.3. Supervision of laws' harmonization	# 6 months reports # recommendations for further harmonization	SC of DRRS	Relevant ministries, civil society and IO	2016-2020	Support from donors	
1.6. Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 1.6. Establishment of an oversight body for implementation of Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy.						
1.6.1. Establishment of the Supervisory Council for DRRS	# decision by the government for the establishment of SC DRRS # periodic meetings of SC DRRS	Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo / Minister of MIA	SC of DRRS	2016-2020		
1.6.2. Regular monitoring and reporting on the implementation of AP-DRRS	# 6 months reports # Recommendations for further work	SC of DRRS	Civil society	2016-2020		

Strategic objective: 2. Developing the capacities for risk management NOD

Measure / Strategic sub-objective 2.1: Increase of skills for generation of information (statistics and different data) on natural and other disasters.

2.1.1. Developing Capacities of HIK, SIK, ARRK level security coordination and cooperation with other institutions in Kosovo as well as participation in international projects.	# insurance experts who assist the officers of the institutions at the workplace # equipment with technical assistance	SC of DRRS	KASA, IOs, NGOs, civil society and private sector	2016-2020	10,000/ year (30000)	
2.1.2. Approval of new technical solutions for protection against floods, erosion and flood control, the residences and the construction of new facilities.	# reports identifying new methods # consultative meetings with relevant stakeholders	SC of DRRS	MESP, MAFRD, Local Government, IO and NGO	2016-2020	300,000 / three years	This fund is provided by MESP periodically, for municipalities in need
2.1.3. Modernization and automation of existing stations and the establishment of new automatic meteorological and hydrological stations	# standards for the modernization and automation of stations # the number of new stations	SC of DRRS	MESP, MAFRD IO and NGO	2016-2020	Donations from IO	

2.1.4. Capacities formation to monitor, analyse and take measures against landslides, afforestation, and avalanches.	# the number of participants in training # 50% increase of participants' knowledge in terms of taking measures against the landslides, afforestation and avalanches	SC of DRRS	MESP, MAFRD, IO and NGO	2016-2020	Administrative	MAFRD has assigned this budget of 1 million euros for the protection of forests from fires, afforestation of bare areas and forest silvicultural treatment
2.1.5. Implementation of methodologies to advance and complete functioning of the Network Seismic Kosovo enriching time stations seismological (seismograph, accelerometer and GPS), programs on seismic risk (seismic hazard and seismic risk) and the most sophisticated equipment for recording strong vibrations	Training on Seismic programs (Seismic Network Servers), a packet of applications that work in real time to detect and localize earthquakes automatically and at real time as well as seismic programs for seismic S risk assessment for the risk reduction from natural disasters with seismic solutions and contemporary methods of geophysical studies	SC of DRRS	MED, IO and NGO	2016-2020	110,000	Enrichment with equipment, programs in time

<p>2.1.6. Renewal of risk seismic maps and distribution of the maximum seismic intensity (research and identification of areas with the highest seismic activity) for the territory of Kosovo with the fresh data from Seismic Network and regional seismological institutes.</p>	<p># renewed maps of seismic risk # % e of the maps extent on the territory of Kosovo</p>	<p>SC of DRRS</p>	<p>MED, IO and NGO</p>	<p>2016-2020</p>	<p>Administrative</p>	
<p>Measure / Strategic sub-objective 2.2: Strengthening of capacities for collection, assessment and analysing of information, as well as continuous update of the database on natural disasters, Des-Inventar.</p>						
<p>2.2.1. Establishing procedures for regular exchange of meteorological, hydrological, seismic, radiation information, etc. between the competent services in Kosovo and neighbouring countries, as well as with other international institutions (ICPDR, WMO, etc.)</p>	<p># drafting of agreements # the number of new implemented procedures</p>	<p>SC of DRRS</p>	<p>MESP, MAFRD, IO and NGO</p>	<p>2016-2020</p>	<p>Administrative</p>	

2.2.2. Continuous training of new methods for data collection from disasters (including DesInventar)	# High participation in the training of relevant institutions # experience exchange with similar institutions in the region	SC of DRRS	MIA, EMA and IO	2016-2020	Administrative + Foreign donations	
2.2.3. Supporting the roundtables for sharing the experiences on DesInventar	# a high participation of relevant institutions # number of recommendations from roundtables	SC of DRRS	MIA, EMA and IO	2016-2020	Foreign donations	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 2.3. Expansion of new capacities of the institutions at central and local level for early alert systemizing.						
2.3.1. Study on effective systems of an early warning and recommendations for Kosovo	# recommendations issued from the study # the number of stakeholders that access the study	SC of DRRS	MIA, EMA and IO	2016-2020	Foreign donations	
2.3.2. Supporting the training for relevant institutions at local and central level for an early warning	# The high participation of relevant institutions # the number of cooperation between institutions	SC of DRRS	MIA, EMA and IO	2016-2020	Administrative EMA - KAPS	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 2.4. Increase of inter-institutional cooperation and coordination on early alert related to natural disaster risk reduction.						
2.4.1. Defining the role and responsibilities through a regulation for an early warning system	# the number of stakeholders participating in the drafting of the regulation # periodic progress reports	SC of DRRS	MIA, EMA, IO and local government	2016-2020	Administrative	

Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 2.5. Support of researches, exchange of information and cooperation with scientific and academic institutions aiming to reduce the existing risks and prevent the new risks.						
2.5.1. Synchronization of protecting system with the EU Directives on the assessment and management of risks from floods, earthquakes and fires, etc.	# identifying the need for synchronization # number of harmonized fields	SC of DRRS	MIA, local government and IO	2016-2020	Administrative	
2.5.2. The development of risk maps from flood, earthquakes, fires etc. the whole territory of Kosovo	# number of conducted risk maps # % of endangered municipalities that reflect maps in their plans	SC of DRRS	MESP, MAFRD, IO and NGO	2016-2020	Donations	Some project proposals are drafted by MESP, MAFRD and others are to be conducted.
2.5.3. Organization of common seminars between academic and scientific institutions and relevant institutions	# number of seminars organized	SC of DRRS	MESP, MAFRD, IO, NGO and KASA	2016-2020	Administrative	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 2.6. Understanding disaster risk and its dimensions.						
2.6.1. It encourages the use and enforcing the basic and periodic assessment of risk from disasters, vulnerability, capacity, exposure, risk characteristics and their potential effects on the relevant social and spatial scale in ecosystems	# drafting the special form # the number of cases when is the assessment used	SC of DRRS	All state institutions, IO and civil society s.	2016-2020	Administrative	

2.6.2. Promotion of real-time access to reliable data, using information on areas and on the field, including geographical information systems (GIS)	# the creation of a functional GIS system # the number of stakeholders who access the system	SC of DRRS	All state institutions, IO, NGO and civil society.	2016-2020	Donations	
Strategic objective:3. Creating safe and stable communities form disasters						
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 3.1. Improvement of communication and dissemination of information between the relevant institutions about natural disaster risk reduction.						
3.1.1. Defining a Communication Plan for the relevant structures for DRRS	# drafted communication plan # % of structures that implement the plan	SC DRRS	All state institutions, IO, NGO and civil society.	2016-2020	Administrative	
3.1.2. Piloting in some municipalities and the extent of Communication Plan at the country level	# recommendations from the pilot municipalities # the number of instances of using the plan	SC DRRS	EMA, local government, IO, NGO and civil society.	2016-2020	4500 for three years	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 3.2. Inclusion of knowledge on disaster risk reduction to the education curricula.						
3.2.1. The completion and implementation of professional education and training in technique for emergency agencies by NOD	# Number of conducted trainings # the number of participants in training	SC of DRRS	EMA, MEST, Save the Children, UNICEF, UNDP and IPA etc.	2016-2020	Administrative	

3.2.2. Exchange of experience with countries in the region to integrate the knowledge into the curriculum for DRRS	# the number of mutual visits # the number of common initiatives	SC of DRRS	EMA, MEST, Save the Children, UNICEF and UNDP etc.	2016-2020	Donations from organizations	It is included in the new curriculum of MEST and cooperation with Save the Children has started to prepare the material for students in grades 1-9
3.2.3. The training of teaching staff for DRRS	# the number of training # % of participants' knowledge increase	SC of DRRS	EMA, KSF, MEST, Save the Children, UNICEF and UNDP	2016-2020	Donations from organizations	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 3.3. Awareness raising and sensitizing the community about the importance of natural disaster risk reduction through media campaigns, social networks, trainings, exercises and protection measures.						
3.3.1. Organization of national campaigns for DRRS (media and community visits)	# number of campaigns # the number of affected beneficiaries	SC of DRRS	EMA, UNDP and NQF	2016-2020	Donations from organizations	
3.3.2. Supporting the activities for the International Day of DRRS	# the number of municipalities involved # number of intended beneficiaries	SC of DRRS	EMA, UNDP, NQF and civil society.	2016-2020	Donations from organizations	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 3.4. Organization and building of structures for protection-rescue and help (SPRA).						
3.4.1. Drafting the plan for the establishment of SPRA	# drafted plan	SC of DRRS	EMA, Municipalities, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2017	Administrative	

3.4. 2. Regular meetings between the authorities and the emergency response teams in the community	# number of meetings # the number of participants in meetings	SC of DRRS	EMA, Municipalities, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Administrative	
3.4.3. Monitoring the professional and volunteer teams of emergency response	# number of visits # monitoring reports	SC of DRRS	EMA, Municipalities, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Administrative	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 3.5. Involvement and organization of youth and civil society in SPRA in order to reduce the risk from natural disasters.						
3.5.1. The roundtable consultation with young people and civil society for SPRA	# number of roundtable consultations # % of participants satisfied with roundtable consultations	SC of DRRS	EMA, Municipalities, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Donations	
3.5.2. Common campaigns between SPRA youth and civil society	# number of campaigns # the number of participants involved	SC of DRRS	EMA, Municipalities, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Donations	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 3.6. Involvement of vulnerable community (pregnant women, children, old people, persons with chronic disease, persons with disabilities, etc.) in drafting of plans for risk management.						
3.6.1. Identification of representatives from vulnerable communities	# notes from consultations with relevant stakeholders	SC of DRRS	EMA, Municipalities, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Administrative	
3.6.2. Mobilization of community prejudice in developing risk management plans	# number of meetings # the number of representatives from different communities	SC of DRRS	EMA, Municipalities, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Donations	

Strategic objective:4. Awareness raising and urging of the institutions and entities for risks from NOD						
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 4.1. Promotion and development of instruments and programmes that draft standards, codes, operational instructions, plans, projects, etc.						
4.1.1. Promotion and development of instruments based on professional research	# the number of instruments # the number of participating stakeholders	SC of DRRS	EMA, KASA UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Administrative	
4.1.2. Consultation of experts in the region and Europe	# agreement with the experts # meetings with experts	SC of DRRS	EMA, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Donations	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 4.2. Improvement of communication and exchange of information between relevant institutions in risk identification and assessment						
4.2.1. The identification of needs for communication improvement and information exchange	# consultation meetings # recommendations for improvement of the communication	SC DRRS	EMA, Municipalities, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Administrative	
4.2.2. Organizing courses with the relevant institutions	# the number of organized courses #% of participants' added knowledge	SC DRRS	EMA, Municipalities, UNDP, NQF and civil society	2016-2020	Administrative	EMA-KAPS
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 4.3. Deepening of integration of strategy and coordination of the activities of the relevant institutions in the risk identification process, assessment and taking of protection measures;						
4.3.1. SC DRRS support through the creation of a budget (meetings, publications, monitoring visits, etc.)	# number of meetings, publications, visits # % Level of support of support from PM	SC of DRRS	The Government of the Republic of Kosovo, International Organizations, Ministry of Finance, UNDP, UNICEF, IPA Program, GIZ, USAID and NGOs.	2016-2020	Donations	

Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 4.4. Development of quality standards such as certification and acknowledgement for disaster risk management with participation of the private sector, civil society, organisations and associations;						
4.3.1 Signing agreements with scientific national and international institutions for the prevention of new risks in relevant fields.	# identification of institutions # number of signed agreements	SC of DRRS	UNDP, UNICEF, IPA program, GIZ, USAID, JICA and NGOs.	2016-2020	Administrative	
4.3.2. Implementation of agreements with scientific national and international institutions for the prevention of new risks in relevant fields.	# the number of common initiatives # the number of stakeholders participating in initiatives	SC of DRRS	UNDP, UNICEF, IPA program, GIZ, US-AID and NGOs.	2016-2020	Administrative	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 4.5. Promotion and support of agreements for regional and international cooperation						
4.5.1. The development of cooperation agreements	# identifying the fields for support # approval of agreements	SC of DRRS	UNDP, UNICEF, IPA program, GIZ, US-AID and NGOs.	2016-2020	Administrative	
4.5.2. Drafting the Action Plans for implementation of agreements	# identification of participating institutions # Action Plan document	SC of DRRS	UNDP, UNICEF, IPA program, GIZ, US-AID and NGOs.	2016-2020	Administrative	

Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 4.6. Provision of quality information, assessment, developing of statistics/databases as well as monitoring of trends related to new risks and natural disasters.					
4.6.1 Monitoring the functioning of Kosovo Seismological Network, seismic activity of the country as well as the collection, preservation, processing, analysis and publication of seismological data	# number of meetings # the report for the support offered	SC of DRRS	MED and IO	2016-2020	
Measure / Strategic sub-objective: 4.7. Promotion of protocols, exchange of information and regional cooperation to facilitate the exchange of capacities and the creation of facilities for emergency response during and after disasters.					
4.7.1. Identifying the needs for capacities exchange between municipalities	# number of meetings with municipalities # reports from meetings with municipalities	SC of DRRS	MLGA, municipalities, UNDP, NGOs and civil society	2016-2020	Administrative
4.7.2. Drafting of regional protocols to facilitate exchange capacity	# number of regional protocols # the number of municipalities that approve protocols	SC of DRRS	MLGA, municipalities, UNDP, NGOs and civil society	2016-2020	Administrative
				Total	468,500.01 for three years