Roles and Responsibilities
Of
Department of Disaster Prevention
And Mitigation
BACKGROUND


DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1) Formulate policy, guideline and identify criteria for disaster management.
2) Study, analyze, conduct the research and develop disaster prevention, and warning systems.
3) Develop information technology system for disaster prevention, warning and mitigation.
4) Mobilize people’s participation to engage in disaster prevention and mitigation.
5) Create awareness and preparedness among the general public.
6) Arrange the training course and drill on disaster prevention and mitigation, rehabilitation and on providing relief to the victims as stated by law.
7) Promote, support and carry out disaster prevention and mitigation activities, provide assistance to the victims and rehabilitate devastated areas.
8) Direct and coordinate the relief operation for disaster victims and rehabilitate the area devastated by large – scale disaster.
9) Coordinate with local and foreign organizations for technical assistance in disaster prevention, mitigation, rehabilitation and in relief operation. Perform any other functions as assigned by the Ministry of Interior or the cabinet.

VISION:
Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior, is the principal government agency to carry out the task and responsibility of disaster prevention and mitigation so as to sustain Thailand’s habitability and safety.

STRATEGY:
1. Knowledge and capacity enhancement strategy. This strategy aims at developing the knowledge – base and enhancing the capacity of all stakeholders on disaster management through
1.1 Establishing “Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Academy” (DPMA) and regional campuses.
1.2 Coordinating with local and international agencies to mobilize disaster management related technology, expertise and innovations.
1.3 Developing the potentiality of people and of community networks to enhance their capacity in disaster management.
2. Disaster management system development strategy. This strategy is carried out through
2.1 Formulating the operational plan to facilitate the interpretation of National Civil Defence Plan into action by all agencies concerned. This operational plan comprises
(1) Incident Command System
(2) Communication System
(3) Efforts Synergy System
(4) Drilling System
2.2 Developing search and rescue team in every province and in potential local government agency.
2.3 Organizing the periodical drill accordingly to the plan stated in National Civil Defence Plan.
2.4 Regulating the task performance of Civil Defence Volunteer.
3. Development of disaster management related equipment and information technology and communication strategy. This strategy is materialized through

3.1 Procuring indispensable tools and equipments for disaster management.
3.2 Developing and improving information technology and communication systems for disaster management.
3.3 Developing and manufacturing tools and equipments for relief operation.

TARGET:
The people will be systematically, rapidly, thoroughly and equitably benefited from DDPM’s prevention, rehabilitation and other civil defence activities.

MISSION:
1. Materializing disaster and civil emergency prevention and warning systems and creating preparedness in all areas.
2. Directing and implementing disaster and civil emergency mitigation activity systematically, rapidly, equitably and thoroughly.
3. Procurement of materials, equipments, and vehicles, indispensable for disaster prevention, mitigation, suppression and for relief operation.
4. Rehabilitation of damaged public utilities, physical and mental recuperation of disaster victim, and restoration of livelihood. All these activities are carried out on thorough, equitable and rapid basis, and be in harmony with the needs of the victims.
5. Mainstreaming and collaborating disaster prevention and mitigation system, programme, the implementation evaluation with other national and international agencies.

MANPOWER:
Manpower of DDPM comprises the personnel transferred from 5 different government agencies namely, Civil Defence Division of Department of Provincial Administration, Department of Accelerated Rural Development, Department of Social Welfare, Department of Community Development, and Office of National Safety Council. The total number of DDPM personnel is 4,220 persons (1,940 civil servants, 2,139 permanent employees and 141 temporary employees). Of all 4,220 persons, 668 persons base in Bangkok headquarters whilst 2,154 persons and 1,398 persons base in 12 DPMRCs and 75 provincial offices respectively.
EQUIPMENT AND TOOL:
Most of diversified disaster management related equipments and tools (2,548 items) locate at 12 regional centers, and can be immediately mobilized to the affected areas.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN:
The Civil Defence Secretariat is responsible for identifying disaster prevention measures and policies and the National Civil Defence Plan. This Plan serves as the master plan for all agencies concerned, and provides guidelines for the formulation of operational plan of agencies responsible for disaster management. The Civil Defence Secretariat does not only identifying policies, but also provides equipments, technical assistance and training courses for local agencies and the general public. It also coordinates with all agencies in charge of disaster relief and rescue operations.

According to the Civil Defence Act 1979, the functional agencies are responsible for formulating their own disaster management plan. The individual agency’s plan must be in concerted with National Civil Defence Plan. National Civil Defence Plan is to be reviewed and updated every three year, and furtherly proposed to the National Civil Defence Committee for approval. The current National Civil Defence Plan which was reviewed and updated in 2005 consists of two main components, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Component, and Civil Defence for Security (Rear-Area Protection) Component.

DISASTER PREVENTION AND MITIGATION COMPONENT: This component comprises 3 parts which can be expounded as follows;

Part I: Civil Defence Master Plan: This part comprises 9 chapters
(1) Disaster Cycle and Civil Hazard Situation
(2) Objectives, Scope and Principles of Civil Defence
(3) Establishment of Civil Defence Commanding Unit
(4) Civil Defence Preparedness
(5) Disaster Response
(6) Coordination of Civil Defence Operation
(7) Rehabilitation
(8) Communications
(9) Evaluation

Part II: Civil Defence Procedure in Disaster Management: This part comprises 11 chapters
(10) Objectives and Principles of Implementation
(11) Flood, Tropical Cyclone and Mudslide Prevention and Mitigation
(12) Fire Prevention and Mitigation
(13) Earthquake Mitigation and Building Collapse Prevention and Mitigation
(14) Drought Prevention and Mitigation
(15) Forest-Fire Prevention and Mitigation
(16) Chemical and Hazmats Prevention and Mitigation
(17) Cold Spell Prevention and Mitigation
(18) Communication and Transportation Accident Prevention and Mitigation
(19) Animal Epidemics Prevention and Mitigation
(20) Agricultural Pests and Diseases Prevention and Mitigation

Part III : Related Laws and Regulations

CIVIL DEFENCE FOR SECURITY (REAR – AREA PROTECTION) COMPONENT : This component comprises 6 chapters which can be explored as followed;
(1) Civil Defence for Security
(2) Disaster Prevention and Mitigation during War-Time (Rear-Area Protection)
(3) Sabotage Prevention and Suppression
(4) Prevention and Mitigation of Disaster Resulted from Landmine and Torpedo
(5) Air-Raid Disaster Prevention and Mitigation
(6) Civil Unrest Prevention and Suppression

DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Prior to October 2, 2002, disaster management training had been conducted by various government agencies at national level such as Civil Defence Secretariat Office, the Office of National Safety Council of Thailand, the Fire Brigade of the National Police Bureau, and Port Authority of Thailand. After the establishment of Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, all of the disaster related training courses are under its responsibility.

The Civil Defence Plan or Disaster Management Master Plan stated in chapter 4 “Civil Defence Preparedness” that Civil Defence Secretariat Office (Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation) is obliged to provide the budget, support and to conduct disaster related training courses for the government officials at all levels and the general public so as to generate public awareness and preparedness and to enhance the officials’ capability. Besides, The Secretariat Office is responsible for developing the curricula, evaluation of training achievement and launching public campaign.

The procedure of public and officials educating and training can be delineated as follows;

(1) For general public : It is essential to equip them with general or basic information on all types of disasters’ nature so as to enable them to safeguard and help themselves in the face of emergency. This can be achieved by
- information dissemination via mass media
- providing the training course
- drilling and simulated demonstration
- mobilizing public sector to participate
2) For Civil Defence Volunteer: The training courses for Civil Defence Volunteers will be more intensive so as to equip them with know-how on various disaster management activities including search and rescue. Upon their training completion, these volunteers will be officially organized and based at their local communities and can be summoned to assist the officials in managing the emergencies any times.

3) For Government Officials: The government officials of national, regional and local authorities that are in charge of disaster management will be trained to become the specialists in managing the type of disaster they are responsible.

DISASTER PREVENTION AND MITIGATION ACADEMY

Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior has set up Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Academy in October 2004 pursuant to the approval of Ministry of Interior.

Vision: The public and government officials are well prepared for disaster prevention and mitigation.

Mission: (1) To be the principal training academy in the field of disaster prevention and mitigation.

(2) To develop the standard of academy curricula be equivalent to international level and to continuously improve such curricula.

(3) To develop and to disseminate disaster management related handbooks, instructions and learning materials.

(4) To conduct training course and to support the training on theoretical and practical aspects for the personnel in public sector, private sector, local government, community, volunteer and the people so as to generate trainers, experts and specialized staff.

(5) To search for international technical cooperation and assistance.

(6) To propose the target and policy in human resource development in the field of disaster management.

Objectives: (1) To set up national principal academy accountable for equipping the personnel in charge of disaster management with technical know-how and practical skills which will be beneficial to national disaster management.

(2) To be the public premise responsible for studying, analyzing, researching and developing disaster management related knowledge and know-how both in theoretical and practical aspects, and furtherly transferring to all stakeholders.
(3) To generate awareness among the public and to mobilize their participation for disaster management. As the consequence, the unity and ultimate efficiency of national disaster management can be attained.

(4) To be the resource premise of disaster management related modern technology and knowledge for public and private sectors’ personnel and general public to study.

(5) To be the entity accountable for exchanging experiences and information with local and international network organizations and educational establishments.

Academy Curricula: Currently DPMA conducts 5 fields of training

1. Fire Fighting
   - Basic Level
   - Advance Level
   - DPM Instructor course
2. Building Collapse
   - Search and Rescue
3. Hazmats Emergency Management
   - Basic Hazmats Emergency Management for Multiplied Trainer
   - Development and Revision of Provincial Hazmats Emergency Operation Plan
4. Civil Defence
   - Civil Defence Volunteer training
   - Civil Defence Volunteer refreshing
   - Director of Civil Defence Volunteer Center training
   - Civil Defence Volunteer Role – Model Trainer trainer
5. Disaster Management
   - Civil Defence Plan Management Trainer
   - Disaster Management for Executives
   - Disaster Management for Practitioner
   - Safety Driving Instructor
   - Community – Based Disaster Risk Management Trainer
   - Emergency Medical Assistance – Emergency Medical Service

DPMA Campuses:
Apart from the establishment located in Bang Poon, Pathum Thani province which serves as the administrative and training venue, DPMA has extended its technical service network by setting up 6 more campuses upcountry.
1. Prachinburi Campus: This campus locates in Prachinburi province and is highlighted as the main fire fighting and search and rescue training center of the country. The construction of 5 main buildings and 13 simulation stations, and the installation of other facilities and amenities are expected to complete within 2 – 3 years.

2. Songkhla Campus: Training courses of this southern campus will be oriented toward creation of awareness and preparedness among the general public in cases of water-related disasters such as landslide and flood, tropical storm and sea rescue.

3. Chiang Mai Campus: This northern campus will specialize in the field of creating awareness and preparedness among the general public in cases of earthquake, flood, tropical storm and mudslide.

4. Khon Kaen Campus: Training courses on flood management and draught management will be highlighted at this northeastern campus. Other training courses include creation of awareness and preparedness among general public in the case of earthquake, flood, tropical storm and mudslide.

5. Phuket Campus: This another southern campus will highlight its training courses on creation of awareness and preparedness among the general public in cases of earthquake and tsunami.

6. Phitsanulok Campus: Training courses of this campus will focus on creation of awareness and preparedness of the general public in cases of flood, tropical storm and mudslide.

Besides arranging these training courses, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation has initiated evacuation drill and simulated exercises annually to create awareness among the public and disaster management in charge officials. And in February 2003, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DPM) has signed MOU with Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) to cooperate in human resources management and disaster prevention and mitigation and exchange disaster expert. The Cooperation between DPM and ADPC will contribute the disaster management in Thailand be more efficient. Besides, DDPM has signed Joint Agreement with Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication (FDMA) to foster technical cooperation between these two agencies. Other bilateral technical cooperation between DDPM and international organizations are JICA (Japanese International Cooperation Agency) of Japan and GTZ (Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit) of Germany.