

## **SP 13: Standards and Scoping of Disaster Risk Management Plans for the Waterberg District Municipality**

### **Determining priority disaster risks and priority at-risk communities, areas and developments**

The Waterberg District Municipality DRMC must identify and map specific disaster risks and specific at-risk communities, areas and developments of significance in the district.

The Waterberg District Municipality DRMC must identify and map specific priority disaster risks in the jurisdiction of neighbouring authorities which may pose threats to the area of the Waterberg District Municipality.

All municipal departments and any other municipal entities must identify focused initiatives to reduce specific risks identified as priorities.

### ***Scoping and developing specific contingency plans and disaster risk reduction plans, programmes and projects***

The development of risk reduction plans and contingency plans must be conducted using project management methodology. All disaster risk management planning by all municipal departments and any other municipal entities must comply with the following:

- Planning must be informed by scientifically sound risk assessment findings
- Planning must be conducted by multidisciplinary technical task teams comprising appropriate specific technical, social and economic expertise that will be responsible for implementing the plans. Primary agencies must be identified and tasked with responsibility for the identification of supporting disciplines and for the establishment and management of multidisciplinary technical task teams
- Planning must involve the active engagement of at-risk communities or groups
- Planning must be conducted holistically by addressing multiple vulnerabilities in specific communities, areas and developments identified to be 'at-risk priorities' and must enhance or add value to other existing development programmes
- Planning must be dynamic and capable of adapting to a continually changing environment
- Plans must avoid increasing risk; creating dependence and undermining ownership of risk
- Planning must be linked to initial assessment findings and must be undertaken using project management methodologies which clearly define goals, performance indicators, targets, primary responsibilities, budget implications and time frames and must include evaluation criteria to measure effectiveness

## Scope of municipal plans

### *Plans of Local Municipalities*

The disaster risk management plans of local municipalities must focus on the development of **operational** plans which give priority to building resilience and reducing the impact of a wide range of different disaster risks in areas, communities and households that are known to be at risk in their areas of jurisdiction.

### *Planning priorities for the Waterberg District Municipality*

Disaster risks only become a planning priority for the Waterberg District Municipality when risk assessments and/or continuous monitoring and tracking processes indicate that:

- a specific disaster affects one or more local municipality in the Waterberg District Municipality
- it exceeds the capacity of a single local municipality to manage it effectively
- disaster risk results in recurring episodes or significant events in more than one local municipality in the district which cause cumulative impacts on lives, property and the natural environment, but do not necessarily fall into the classification of a disaster

The Waterberg District Municipality disaster risk management planning priorities must therefore focus on:

- Wide scale events that due to their magnitude are likely to affect more than one local municipality. These include widespread floods; and other severe weather events such as severe storms; veld fires and severe drought; water pollution; pest and animal infestations
- Recurrent high and medium impact events such as epidemics, animal infestations, floods and other severe weather events, large informal settlement fires, veld and urban fringe fires that may require the district's intervention or the mobilisation of the district municipality's resources and infrastructure in support of the affected local municipality
- Low frequency high and medium magnitude disaster risks with potential for severe loss and which require specialist support possibly not available in the district, such as nuclear accidents, epidemics, major transport accidents and severe pollution.
- Disaster risks that affect neighbouring authorities which may have consequences for the district

Each municipal department and any other municipal entities included in the organisational structure of the district must identify and prioritise those disaster risks relevant to their functional area and prepare their departmental disaster risk management plan accordingly.

In implementing the Disaster Management Act, all municipal departments and any other municipal entities must identify and prioritise those risks relevant to their respective functional areas.

### ***Identifying the most vulnerable areas, communities and households***

Due to the fact that all areas, communities and households do not necessarily face the same disaster risks, disaster risk management planning priorities must be placed on those areas, communities and households that are exposed to natural or other threats, *and have the least capacity* to resist and recover from the resulting impacts. These are called at-risk or high risk areas, communities or households.

### ***Priorities for focusing disaster risk protection efforts***

For disaster risk management planning purposes, all municipal departments and any other municipal entities must, according to their functional area or area of jurisdiction, give priority to protecting:

- strategic infrastructure or lifeline services whose damage or disruption in disaster events would result in serious and widespread consequences
- critical economic, commercial, agricultural and industrial zones or sites whose damage or disruption would have serious and widespread consequences
- fragile natural ecosystems and environmental assets that offer protective environmental services and which, if damaged or destroyed in a disaster event, would result in serious natural and economic losses
- communities in areas exposed to extreme weather and/or other natural and technological hazards and which are therefore likely to sustain serious human and property losses in the event of a disaster
- poor and under-served rural and urban communities, including informal settlements, especially those located in fragile ecological areas, that sustain repeated losses from recurrent small, medium, and large disaster events, and that lack insurance coverage to facilitate recovery
- highly vulnerable households in at-risk areas with limited capacity to resist or recover from external shocks, particularly child-headed households or those headed by the elderly or households affected by chronic illness

Where possible, this process must take place in consultation with those most at risk.

### ***Phasing in the development of Disaster Risk Management Plans***

#### ***Level 1 Disaster Risk Management Plan***

A Level 1 Disaster Risk Management Plan applies to municipal departments, local municipalities and any other municipal entities that have not previously developed a coherent disaster risk management plan.

It focuses primarily on establishing foundational institutional arrangements for disaster risk management, putting in place contingency plans for responding to known priority threats, identifying key governmental and other stakeholders and developing the capability to generate a Level 2 Disaster Risk Management Plan.

### ***Level 2 Disaster Risk Management Plan***

A Level 2 Disaster Risk Management Plan applies to municipal departments, local municipalities and any other municipal entities that have established the foundational institutional arrangements, and are building the essential supportive capabilities needed to carry out comprehensive disaster risk management activities.

It includes establishing processes for a comprehensive disaster risk assessment, identifying and establishing formal consultative mechanisms for the development of disaster risk reduction projects and introducing a supportive information system and emergency communications capabilities.

### ***Level 3 Disaster Risk Management Plan***

A Level 3 Disaster Risk Management Plan applies to municipal departments, local municipalities and any other municipal entities that have established both the foundational institutional arrangements for disaster risk management and essential supportive capabilities.

The plan must specify clear institutional arrangements for coordinating and aligning the plan with other governmental initiatives and plans of institutional role players. It must also show evidence of informed risk assessment and on-going risk monitoring capabilities as well as relevant developmental measures that reduce the vulnerability of disaster-prone areas, communities and households.

The NDMF foresees that within one year of the commencement of the Act, provincial and municipal organs of state will have submitted to the NDMC, at a minimum, Level 1 Disaster Risk Management Plans. Within two years of the commencement of the Act, all provincial and municipal organs of state will have submitted, at a minimum, Level 2 Disaster Risk Management Plans. Within four years of the commencement of the Act, all provincial and municipal organs of state will have submitted Level 3 Disaster Risk Management Plans.

Municipal departments, local municipalities and any other municipal entities must specify which one of the three specified disaster risk management planning Levels is most appropriate for their respective capabilities, experience and functional responsibilities. They must also indicate the steps they are taking that will allow them to progress to more advanced levels of planning.

Disaster risk management plans developed by municipalities must be incorporated into IDP and funding processes.

### ***Components of Disaster Risk Management Plans***

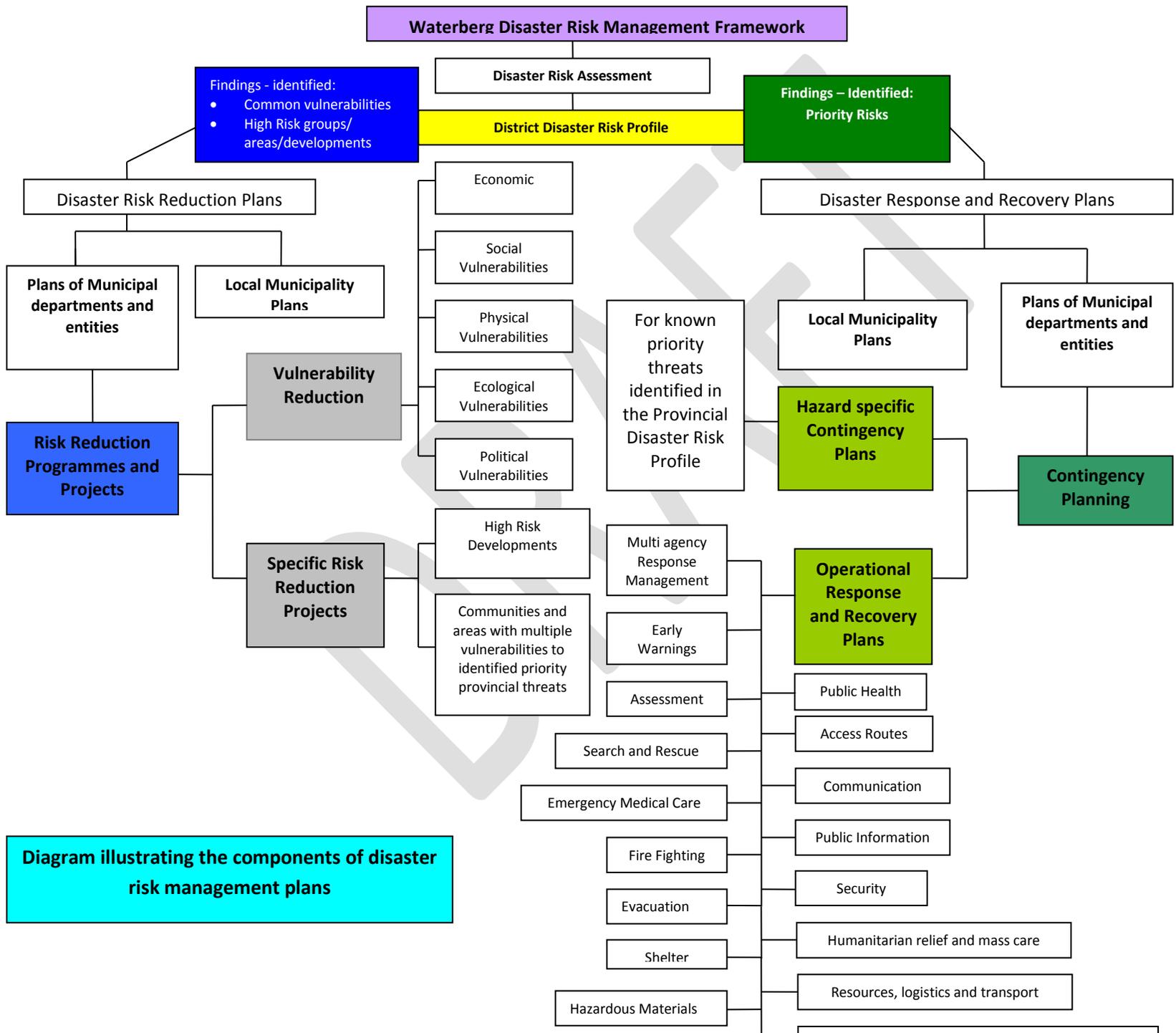


Diagram illustrating the components of disaster risk management plans

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