



# Seychelles

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## National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2013-2015)

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# Strategic goals

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## Strategic Goal Area 1

*The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.*

### Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

In 2014, Seychelles successfully endorsed the National Disaster Risk Management Act and National Disaster Risk Management Policy. Together with this is a 5-year Strategic plan to support both policy and legislative documents with a clear roadmap to 2019. The policy and dictates measures and mechanisms all organisations involves in Disaster Risk Reduction should take and the law reinforces this bid by supporting their efforts and imposing on their reluctance. The Seychelles has also adopted a comprehensive, integrated and all-hazard approach to Disaster Risk Management.

## Strategic Goal Area 2

*The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.*

### Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

Under various projects, the government is being encouraged to develop or adopt tools to improve capacity in district-level, regional-level and national-level. Under the Disaster Risk Management Act, 2014, the National government will now have the power to create committees addressing issues on a more defined scale. Members of the public can also participate by registering as a volunteer. The government is willing to invest in these volunteers who will beef up capacity for disaster risk management and emergency management in their community and on a national level. Trainings and degrees have also been provided to first responder agencies as well as incident command.

## Strategic Goal Area 3

*The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.*

### Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

In terms of preparedness, the Ministry of Health has been proactive in reviewing the National Health Contingency plan. In 2014, the industrial contingency plan was endorsed by cabinet. To improve incident command's response, the National Emergency Operations Centre has purchased new equipment and software. A training for the Virtual Emergency operations Centre and DesInventar online database for disaster losses was conducted. The Disaster Risk Management Information System was adopted by law to allow us continuously improve communications, effective response, data collection and reporting before, during and after emergencies. For recovery, the CAT-DDO policy loan was approved by the World Bank to enable Seychelles to have funds readily available to support recovery efforts if and when needed.

# Priority for Action 1

*Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.*

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## Core indicator 1

*National policy and legal framework for disaster risk reduction exists with decentralised responsibilities and capacities at all levels.*

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is disaster risk taken into account in public investment and planning decisions? Yes

<b>National development plan</b>	Yes
· <a href="#">Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy</a>	
<b>Sector strategies and plans</b>	Yes
· <a href="#">Industry Sector Contingency Plan</a>	
· <a href="#">Education Sector Contingency Plan</a>	
· <a href="#">Shelter Management Policy</a>	
<b>Climate change policy and strategy</b>	Yes
· <a href="#">Seychelles Climate Change Strategy</a>	
<b>Poverty reduction strategy papers</b>	Yes
<b>CCA/ UNDAF (Common Country Assessment/ UN Development Assistance Framework)</b>	Yes
<b>Civil defence policy, strategy and contingency planning</b>	Yes

Have legislative and/or regulatory provisions been made for managing disaster risk?  
Yes

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Much of Seychelles' law and policies take DRR into consideration. DRDM is also very proactive in ensuring legislation and policies as well as SOP manuals and plans are produced. We have made great strides to produce documentation and ensuring partners understand the importance of DRR.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

DRDM has done a lot of work to produce the necessary documents to mainstream DRR and to manage disaster risk. The main challenge is implementing the policies, reinforcing the law, funding to increase standards, staffing to effectively manage the workload and capacity building to ensure staff we have a trained to do the work required of them.

**Core indicator 2**

*Dedicated and adequate resources are available to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels*

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

What is the ratio of the budget allocation to risk reduction versus disaster relief and reconstruction?

	<b>Risk reduction / prevention (%)</b>	<b>Relief and reconstruction (%)</b>
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<b>National budget</b>	2.5%	
<b>Decentralised / sub-national budget</b>		1%
<b>USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)</b>		

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Seychelles government hopes to find ways and means of increasing investment in DRR. 2.5% of the national budget is invested in DRR and only 1% is set aside as a contingency fund, but it is not used exclusively for recovery/ response. It is used for anything that has not been budgeted for. Seychelles has yet to reserve funds in the national budget for recovery and reconstruction.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

It is still a struggle to convince decision-makers that investing in DRR is a worthwhile investment. DRR is not looked at to be among the main priorities but together with international partners, DRDM is seeking for tools and carrying out assessments to produce results that can convince the decision-makers that the international recommended standard of at least 6% investment in DRR is worth it.

### **Core indicator 3**

*Community Participation and decentralisation is ensured through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels*

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do local governments have legal responsibility and regular / systematic budget allocations for DRR? Yes

<b>Legislation (Is there a specific legislation for local governments with a mandate for DRR?)</b>	Yes
<b>Regular budget allocations for DRR to local government</b>	Yes
<b>Estimated % of local budget allocation assigned to DRR</b>	2.5%

### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The local government can now lean on the Disaster Risk Management Act, 2014 and the policy to beef up their DRR. They have been requested to work on writing up projects that will benefit the community at large and not just individual household projects.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The local government now carry a lot of power to promote and execute the DRR work required through the DRM law. The challenge here is that the local government has district administrators (similar to mayors) who are responsible for this work and many of them are not trained to think in a DRR context so their management style will very often not include DRR as a strategy. Training has to be provided to DAs offices and they need to work on a mechanism for continuity whereby when there is a new DA, they are made aware of their responsibilities towards DRR in their district.

### Core indicator 4

*A national multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction is functioning.*

## Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are civil society organizations, national finance and planning institutions, key economic and development sector organizations represented in the national platform? Yes

<b>civil society members (specify absolute number)</b>	4
<b>national finance and planning institutions (specify absolute number)</b>	3
<b>sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)</b>	4
<b>private sector (specify absolute number)</b>	1
<b>science and academic institutions (specify absolute number)</b>	1
<b>women's organisations participating in national platform (specify absolute number)</b>	1
<b>other (please specify)</b>	

### Where is the coordinating lead institution for disaster risk reduction located?

<b>In the Prime Minister's/President's Office</b>	No
<b>In a central planning and/or coordinating unit</b>	No
<b>In a civil protection department</b>	No
<b>In an environmental planning ministry</b>	Yes
<b>In the Ministry of Finance</b>	No
<b>Other (Please specify)</b>	

### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator



**(not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The DRR National Platform was established since the conception of the national disaster risk management secretariat and even before the DRDM. It is now included under the law and policy. Members attend whenever requested. The platform is flexible to accommodate new members from different organizations, private or public whenever necessary.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Despite the existence of the platform and the participation whenever required, there is still the need for the members to become more proactive and think towards DRR. There is hope that a lot more sensitization will be made available for members.

# Priority for Action 2

*Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning*

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## Core indicator 1

*National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors.*

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national multi-hazard risk assessment with a common methodology available to inform planning and development decisions? Yes

<b>Multi-hazard risk assessment</b>	Yes
<a href="#">School Visits Activity of Work</a>	
<b>% of schools and hospitals assessed</b>	55%
<b>schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)</b>	6
<b>Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments</b>	Yes
<b>Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments</b>	Yes
<b>Risk assessment held by a central repository (lead institution)</b>	Yes
<b>Common format for risk assessment</b>	Yes
<b>Risk assessment format customised by user</b>	Yes
<b>Is future/probable risk assessed?</b>	Yes
<b>Please list the sectors that have already used disaster risk assessment as a precondition for sectoral development planning and</b>	DRDM, Planning Authority, Fire and Rescue Services,

**programming.**

All tourism establishments (hotels, guest houses).

### **Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Much work has been done to tackle vulnerability and exposure in schools, hospitals and clinics but due to a lack of resources and starting a little late, the risk assessment team has yet to cover other schools, hospitals and clinics.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The Education Sector contingency plan, Industrial sector and tourism contingency plan have been endorsed by cabinet. We have yet to identify disaster managers in both the education and industrial sector contingency plans. The tourism sector has successfully identified a disaster manager to manage DRR in the tourism sector. The limitation is the sensitization is still lacking for private business and budget limitations are a problem to hire or allocate disaster managers for schools.

## **Core indicator 2**

*Systems are in place to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards and vulnerabilities*

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are disaster losses and hazards systematically reported, monitored and analyzed?  
Yes

<b>Disaster loss databases exist and are regularly updated</b>	Yes
<b>Reports generated and used in planning by finance, planning and sectoral line ministries (from the disaster databases/ information systems)</b>	Yes
<b>Hazards are consistently monitored across localities and territorial boundaries</b>	Yes

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Under an Indian Ocean Commission/ UNISDR initiative, data collection for disasters/ major and minor emergencies (depending on the nature) and disaster losses for the past 30 years were collected and uploaded into an online database (DesInventar). A course to train all first responder institutions for data collection and upload the data to an online server, accessible to all was conducted in 2013 and again on February 2015. It has been agreed under the World Bank's Cat-DDO agreement with the Seychelles government as one of the priority actions for the policy loan, that the DesInventar Database will be updated a minimum of once every year.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

A culture of data collection, documentation and reporting has yet to be established. Mechanisms have been put in place but many organizations have to be reminded and usually conduct data collection to provide DRDM but not for themselves. It is important for these organizations to concentrate efforts in data collection, documentation and reporting for their own benefit as well.

**Core indicator 3**

*Early warning systems are in place for all major hazards, with outreach to communities.*

Level of Progress achieved? 4



Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Do risk prone communities receive timely and understandable warnings of impending hazard events? Yes

<b>Early warnings acted on effectively</b>	Yes
<b>Local level preparedness</b>	Yes
<b>Communication systems and protocols used and applied</b>	Yes
<b>Active involvement of media in early warning dissemination</b>	Yes

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The National Meteorological Services produce results of predicted weather forecasts and a multi-stakeholder meeting on preparedness for the rainy season is held. This ensures all responder agencies are made fully aware of what is predicted. The system and protocols have been established, are clear-cut and drills are conducted quite often.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

One of the main shortcomings is the frequency that staff trained changes. Another is the lack of equipment for other types of hazards. There has been much investment in hydrometeorological hazards but very little has been done to promote early warning systems for other hazards. With the new law, new comprehensive, integrated and multi-hazard approach, it would be important to make provisions to consider early warning for all hazard types and not just the most common for the country.

## Core indicator 4

*National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.*

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Does your country participate in regional or sub-regional actions to reduce disaster risk? Yes

<b>Establishing and maintaining regional hazard monitoring</b>	Yes
<b>Regional or sub-regional risk assessment</b>	Yes
<b>Regional or sub-regional early warning</b>	Yes
<b>Establishing and implementing protocols for transboundary information sharing</b>	No
<b>Establishing and resourcing regional and sub-regional strategies and frameworks</b>	No

### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Seychelles works closely with UNOCHA, PIROI and other regional governments to tackle early warning. There are also several regional equipment (satellite) that is offered to be used for free (non-commercial use) for high-resolution photos, technical expertise is also shared within the region.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be

overcome in the future.

There are no MoUs and the help shared is based on good-will and diplomatic relations/ quid pro quo basis within organisations and countries in the region.

# Priority for Action 3

*Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels*

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## Core indicator 1

*Relevant information on disasters is available and accessible at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems etc)*

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national disaster information system publicly available? Yes

<b>Information is proactively disseminated</b>	Yes
<b>Established mechanisms for access / dissemination (internet, public information broadcasts - radio, TV, )</b>	Yes
<b>Information is provided with proactive guidance to manage disaster risk</b>	Yes

### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

1. DRDM has created liaison officers with all first responders and other relevant stakeholders.
2. Workshops are held with governmental and non-governmental partners.
3. Training held involving stakeholders, staffs, and volunteers.
4. Now have the Virtual Emergency Operating Centre that we have putted in and are working on for overall information sharing and communication improvement with all



concerned.

5. DRDM has a website in existence and is updating to make it more interactive with the general public.

6. Participate in exhibitions and have set up exhibitions with key ministers and the vice-president also, to showcase our work.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The gap lies in maintaining the same staff/ continuity with the same stakeholders. Every so often there is a change in a sense that those who receive training, move on to other jobs and the ones left to liaise with are usually under-trained or have expertise that are not similar and we are left having to re-train. It is important for each organization/ sector to ensure that those trained are able to train an understudy of some sort to ensure no training goes to waste.

We also hope to find a way to increase the number of training provided, drills conducted and to update our website and distribute free e-newsletters and newsletters to government and private offices, the general public as well as international partners.

## Core indicator 2

*School curricula , education material and relevant trainings include disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts and practices.*

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum? No

<b>primary school curriculum</b>	No
<b>secondary school curriculum</b>	No
<b>university curriculum</b>	No

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Much of the work with schools and the university has started only very recently. We have managed to start getting the Ministry of Education to find the importance and need to put in place Emergency plans specific for each school and a national one for the ministry of education. The ministry of education is now putting this request in their strategic plan and DRDM is assisting with this and with a Rapid School Survey. The key decision people within the ministry of education have to come on board and continue with discussion and with corporated action alongside DRDM's Training, Education and Awareness Section and Risk Assessment Section and respective partners.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Due to lack of staffing, expertise and funding, it has been a challenge to integrate DRR into any education curriculum. We have yet to develop a culture to educate educators on DRR and have them integrate this to their curriculum. Much work is being done to train trainers in the world of work but not yet in schools/ university level.

**Core indicator 3**

*Research methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and cost benefit analysis are developed and strengthened.*

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget? No

<b>Research programmes and projects</b>	No
<b>Research outputs, products or studies are applied / used by public and private institutions</b>	No
<b>Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR</b>	No

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

With the exception of the Education Sector's contingency plan and an outdated Risk profile (2008), very little has been done on DRR for schools with regard to research, hazard surveillance, risk assessment and DRR integration in schools' curriculum.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

No studies regarding this for now, only small trainings with World Bank for DaLA compilation. Funding, staffing and expertise are lacking.

**Core indicator 4**

*Countrywide public awareness strategy exists to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities.*

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Do public education campaigns for risk-prone communities and local authorities include disaster risk? No

<b>Public education campaigns for enhanced awareness of risk.</b>	No
<b>Training of local government</b>	Yes
<b>Disaster management (preparedness and emergency response)</b>	Yes
<b>Preventative risk management (risk and vulnerability)</b>	Yes
<b>Guidance for risk reduction</b>	No
<b>Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level</b>	Yes

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There has been some improvement over the years to develop community-based DRR. District administrators and staff are usually involved when DRDM organizes drills, trainings and activities.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The shortfall would be the lack of pro-activeness by other organizations e.g. schools, DAs and other community-based and faith-based organizations. There is a general lack of ownership with regard to responsibility for DRR in many different sectors. It is important to ensure that all sectors and organizations understand that mainstreaming DRR is not only DRDM's work but cross-cutting.

# Priority for Action 4

*Reduce the underlying risk factors*

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## Core indicator 1

*Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.*

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc) Yes

Protected areas legislation	Yes
Payment for ecosystem services (PES)	No
Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)	Yes
Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)	Yes
Climate change adaptation projects and programmes	Yes

### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There have been regional projects and the involvement of international organizations.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular,

highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The offices involved in ecosystems management, mangroves and climate change adaptation has not been very proactive in involving DRDM and thus it has been difficult to assess their progress made in relation to DRR. Better liaison with these NGOs and government offices is recommended in the future.

## Core indicator 2

*Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.*

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do social safety nets exist to increase the resilience of risk prone households and communities? Yes

<b>Crop and property insurance</b>	Yes
<b>Temporary employment guarantee schemes</b>	Yes
<b>Conditional and unconditional cash transfers</b>	No
<b>Micro finance (savings, loans, etc.)</b>	Yes
<b>Micro insurance</b>	Yes

### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The government can provide help to fell hazardous trees and blast hazardous boulders threatening households. We also help the elderly and disabled as well as those without the means to remove any threat to their life or livelihood. Provisions are

also made to help those in need to build retaining walls if they are needed and loans are given to those who can afford this.

The government, private insurance companies and farmers have developed an affordable scheme to ensure all farmers and their crops/ animals. This scheme is affordable and has been very successful since its implementation.

There are temporary employment schemes for those looking for part-time work, welfare is also provided for those in need. Seasonal work is also available.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Members of the public need more sensitizing on options available to them for loans, schemes and other services that the government and private sector provides.

### Core indicator 3

*Economic and productive sectorial policies and plans have been implemented to reduce the vulnerability of economic activities*

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

#### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment? Yes

<b>National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.</b>	Yes
<b>Please provide specific examples: e.g. public infrastructure, transport and communication, economic and productive assets</b>	All government assets and staff are insured.
<b>Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals</b>	Yes

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The government insures all staff and public infrastructure.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Many infrastructure and people have yet to be insured. Insurance schemes should be affordable to everyone and there is a need for members of the public to take ownership of their house, car and other belongings and to insure themselves as well. It is very common for many people to lean on government support during emergencies when these are usually expected for them to do on their own.

**Core indicator 4**

*Planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes.*

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is there investment to reduce the risk of vulnerable urban settlements? Yes

<b>Investment in drainage infrastructure in flood prone areas</b>	Yes
<b>Slope stabilisation in landslide prone areas</b>	Yes
<b>Training of masons on safe construction technology</b>	Yes
<b>Provision of safe land and housing for low income households and communities</b>	Yes



**Risk sensitive regulation in land zoning and private real estate development**

Yes

**Regulated provision of land titling**

Yes

### **Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Ministry of Land Use and Housing under a project to develop a strategic plan for the Victoria (the capital) has successfully involves all the key players in development. This plan will be used to ensure Victoria is developed with many developmental risks taken into consideration.

The government has spent a considerable amount to reduce vulnerability in many areas that have been flooded recently due to heavy rain and poor planning/ development on those areas. The government also invests a lot on training (degrees and short courses) to train personnel in civil engineering, DRM/DRR, land use and management to name a few.

New apartments have been constructed on reclaimed land. They have a lifespan of approximately 100 years and much has been invested and spent to ensure that the location and land is safe and stable.

The DRM law 2014, allows DRDM to limit development in areas that are deemed unsafe.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

It is important that the public respects planning laws and regulations, as does private companies and government. It is also important that insurance cover is taken into account and that the penalty for illegal development is more stringent and severe.

## **Core indicator 5**

*Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes*

### Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

#### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do post-disaster programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR for resilient recovery? Yes

<b>% of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR</b>	1%
<b>DRR capacities of local authorities for response and recovery strengthened</b>	Yes
<b>Risk assessment undertaken in pre- and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction planning</b>	Yes
<b>Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery</b>	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There is a National Contingency fund (approx 1% of the national budget) allocated for any emergencies/ contingency that has not been specifically allocated to any government activity. There is also the National Disaster Relief Fund where donations from private individuals/ companies/ international organizations/ other countries managed by a steering committee.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

More funds need to be allocated specifically for recovery efforts and reconstruction. It is difficult to rely on donor funds since the amount is not specific or guaranteed.

DRDM is not in the steering committee whereby donor funds are allocated to where they are needed. It is important for DRDM to be involved in all phases of DRM, and

involvement in the recovery phase is equally important.

### Core indicator 6

*Procedures are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects, especially infrastructure.*

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

#### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the impacts of disaster risk that are created by major development projects assessed? Yes

Are cost/benefits of disaster risk taken into account in the design and operation of major development projects? No

<b>Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)</b>	Yes
<b>By national and sub-national authorities and institutions</b>	Yes
<b>By international development actors</b>	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There is a planning sub-committee where all planning projects are assessed by a multi-stakeholder committee. CBA has only recently been introduced as a possible tool to convince government to invest more in DRR from the national budget.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be

overcome in the future.

International actors are involved through projects that are usually managed by Seychelles. More involvement of international experts are recommended. Funding is as important as expertise.

# Priority for Action 5

*Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels*

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## Core indicator 1

*Strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are in place.*

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are there national programmes or policies for disaster preparedness, contingency planning and response? Yes

<b>DRR incorporated in these programmes and policies</b>	Yes
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<b>The institutional mechanisms exist for the rapid mobilisation of resources in a disaster, utilising civil society and the private sector; in addition to public sector support.</b>	Yes
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Are there national programmes or policies to make schools and health facilities safe in emergencies? Yes

<b>Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety</b>	Yes
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<b>Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness</b>	Yes
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Are future disaster risks anticipated through scenario development and aligned preparedness planning? Yes

<b>Potential risk scenarios are developed taking into account climate change projections</b>	Yes
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<b>Preparedness plans are regularly updated based on future risk scenarios</b>	Yes
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**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Over the years many international partners have contributed in producing reports and documentation on possible future scenarios (JICA, UNDP). The education sector has a contingency plan that has already been endorsed by cabinet, but in need of updating. Drills are conducted in schools, some schools have a red cross committee for students to be involved in emergency response.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Many documents and reports exists. Implementation in this case is a problem and so is staffing, funding and expertise as well as pro-activeness on the part of the Ministry.

**Core indicator 2**

*Disaster preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at all administrative levels, and regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes.*

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are the contingency plans, procedures and resources in place to deal with a major disaster? Yes

<b>Plans and programmes are developed with gender sensitivities</b>	Yes
<b>Risk management/contingency plans for continued basic service delivery</b>	Yes
<b>Operations and communications centre</b>	Yes

Search and rescue teams	Yes
Stockpiles of relief supplies	Yes
Shelters	Yes
Secure medical facilities	Yes
Dedicated provision for disabled and elderly in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities	Yes
Businesses are a proactive partner in planning and delivery of response	No

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Most sectors have contingency plans. Each contingency plan produce takes into account gender, disabled persons, the elderly- the vulnerable groups.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Very little has been done with regard to private businesses and business continuity has been rarely addressed. Contingency plans need to be updated, practiced and used more often. Data on vulnerable persons for each district also needs to be collected and updated as often as possible.

### **Core indicator 3**

*Financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place to support effective response and recovery when required.*

#### **Level of Progress achieved? 4**

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are financial arrangements in place to deal with major disaster? Yes

<b>National contingency and calamity funds</b>	Yes
<b>The reduction of future risk is considered in the use of calamity funds</b>	No
<b>Insurance and reinsurance facilities</b>	Yes
<b>Catastrophe bonds and other capital market mechanisms</b>	No

**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The government has allocated a contingency fund of approximately 1% of its budget for disaster recovery. Seychelles has also taken a policy loan with the World Bank (Cat-DDO) of approximately \$7 million.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The contingency fund is not specifically allocated for Disaster recovery. It is shared with other activities that might require funding (piracy, elections etc). A specific budget for recovery needs to be allocated.

**Core indicator 4**

*Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters, and to undertake post-event reviews.*

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.



**Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Has an agreed method and procedure been adopted to assess damage, loss and needs when disasters occur? Yes

<b>Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available</b>	Yes
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· [DaLA Floods 2013](#)

<b>Post-disaster need assessment methodologies</b>	Yes
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<b>Post-disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects</b>	No
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<b>Identified and trained human resources</b>	Yes
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**Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).**

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

A DaLA training on the methodology was held in 2013 for all stakeholders. There is a form each affected organization fills in during any emergencies and DRDM prepared the DaLA report.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The DaLA report is not prepared when the emergency is small and thus better, more frequent reporting on Damage, loss and needs is required.

# Drivers of Progress

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## **a) Multi-hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development**

### Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?: Yes

If yes, are these being applied to development planning/ informing policy?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The UNDP Risk Profile 2008 provides documentation on multi-hazard analyses conducted in the country. It is being used as reference, however it is in dire need of updating.

## **b) Gender perspectives on risk reduction and recovery adopted and institutionalized**

### Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Is gender disaggregated data available and being applied to decision-making for risk reduction and recovery activities?: Yes

Do gender concerns inform policy and programme conceptualisation and implementation in a meaningful and appropriate way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

There is a government office responsible for gender issues. Gender has been integrated in all DRR/ emergency response plans.

## **c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened**

### Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do responsible designated agencies, institutions and offices at the local level have capacities for the enforcement of risk reduction regulations?:  
Yes

Are local institutions, village committees, communities, volunteers or urban resident welfare associations properly trained for response?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

DRDM, planning authority, EIA, Coastal adaptation management section have been very proactive in DRR, as has some of the responder agencies. However, many sectors (with the exception of the tourism sector) have yet to demonstrate proactiveness in DRR and their capacity for recovery.

Each district has an "Emergency Brigade" with 10 trained personnel (volunteers). Other than this, nothing much is in place unless help to respond is outsourced by the local government or national government.

## **d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities**

### Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do programmes take account of socio-environmental risks to the most

vulnerable and marginalised groups?: Yes

Are appropriate social protection measures / safety nets that safeguard against their specific socioeconomic and political vulnerabilities being adequately implemented?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

Similar to gender, vulnerable groups have been taken into account. The government ensures aid is given to those in need and in the form they need, and nothing else is questioned.

## **e) Engagement and partnerships with non-governmental actors; civil society, private sector, amongst others, have been fostered at all levels**

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Are there identified means and sources to convey local and community experience or traditional knowledge in disaster risk reduction?: Yes

If so, are they being integrated within local, sub-national and national disaster risk reduction plans and activities in a meaningful way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The Community Development and Sports Division is responsible to communicate their communities needs and desires. District meetings are held regularly and the communities' concerns are liaised to the DRDM (national DRM office).

## **Contextual Drivers of Progress**

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

## Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The main concern is educating and sensitizing both the decision-makers and members of the public that DRM/DRR is a worthwhile investment. This cultural change will allow tremendous strides in the progress of DRR is checked. This will allow the government to invest more in DRR, members of the public and other sectors and government organizations to take ownership and invest in DRR as well.

# Future Outlook

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## Future Outlook Area 1

***The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.***

### Overall Challenges

The main challenge in implementing DRR has been lack of funding, lack of staff and lack of expertise. It is difficult to identify which of the 3 have been a greater challenge because they are all linked to a certain extent. One can rarely exist effectively without the other.

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### Future Outlook Statement

It is important for the government to tackle one priority at a time, if resources are limited, instead of spreading out the activities and end up with many uncompleted activities. It is also important for government to produce a very detailed project document before project implementation. International organizations should respect government priorities and not impose their own initiatives on government.

## Future Outlook Area 2

***The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.***

### Overall Challenges

Local government needs to take ownership and decentralize DRR from the national government. It is important for them to implement projects that benefit the community as a whole as opposed to individuals where possible.

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## Future Outlook Statement

Ideally, the local government needs to build capacity to respond to both individual and community-level emergencies. To do this, they will need more detailed project documents and improved creativity in local projects to maximize use of their limited resources.

## Future Outlook Area 3

***The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.***

## Overall Challenges

Each District has an emergency brigade that is trained to deal with emergency response on a local level. They should receive more expert training and specialized training.

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## Future Outlook Statement

Instead of a centralized budget, it might be important to allocate a specific budget for local government, for emergency preparedness, recovery and response so that local emergencies do not take away from national emergencies and vice versa. Specific budget allocation for local government can also improve their preparedness in terms of trained volunteers and equipment as well as speed up the recovery process.

# Stakeholders

*Organizations, departments, and institutions that have contributed to the report*

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Organization	Organization type	Focal Point
Division of Risk and Disaster Management	Governments	Divina Sabino, Project Officer
Division of Risk and Disaster Management	Governments	Paul Labaleine, Director General