

The Second Expert Group Meeting on the Great East Japan Earthquake

Disaster Management in Myanmar: Lessons Learnt from Cyclone Nargis

Presented by
Department of Relief and Resettlement
Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

Outline of the Presentation

- ◉ Hazard Profile
- ◉ National Disaster Management Institutions
- ◉ Cyclone Nargis Response and Recovery
- ◉ Lesson Learnt

Hazard Profile

Myanmar is prone to multiple hazards:

- Fire
- Forest Fire
- Drought
- Cyclone
- Storm surge
- Tsunami
- Flood
- Landslide
- Earthquake

National Disaster Management Institutions

- National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee - formed in January 2005 with the chairmanship of Prime Minister.
- Myanmar Disaster Preparedness Agency, chaired by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement has been reformed on 20th April 2011.
 - Region/State Disaster Preparedness Committee
 - District Disaster Preparedness Committee
 - Township Disaster Preparedness Committee
 - Village Tract/Village Disaster Preparedness Committee
- Myanmar National Search and Rescue Committee has also been formed on 20th April 2011.

Coordination Mechanism

MDPA



Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

State/Regional Governor

20 Line ministries



ASEAN Disaster Management Committee (ACDM)

UN/INGOs

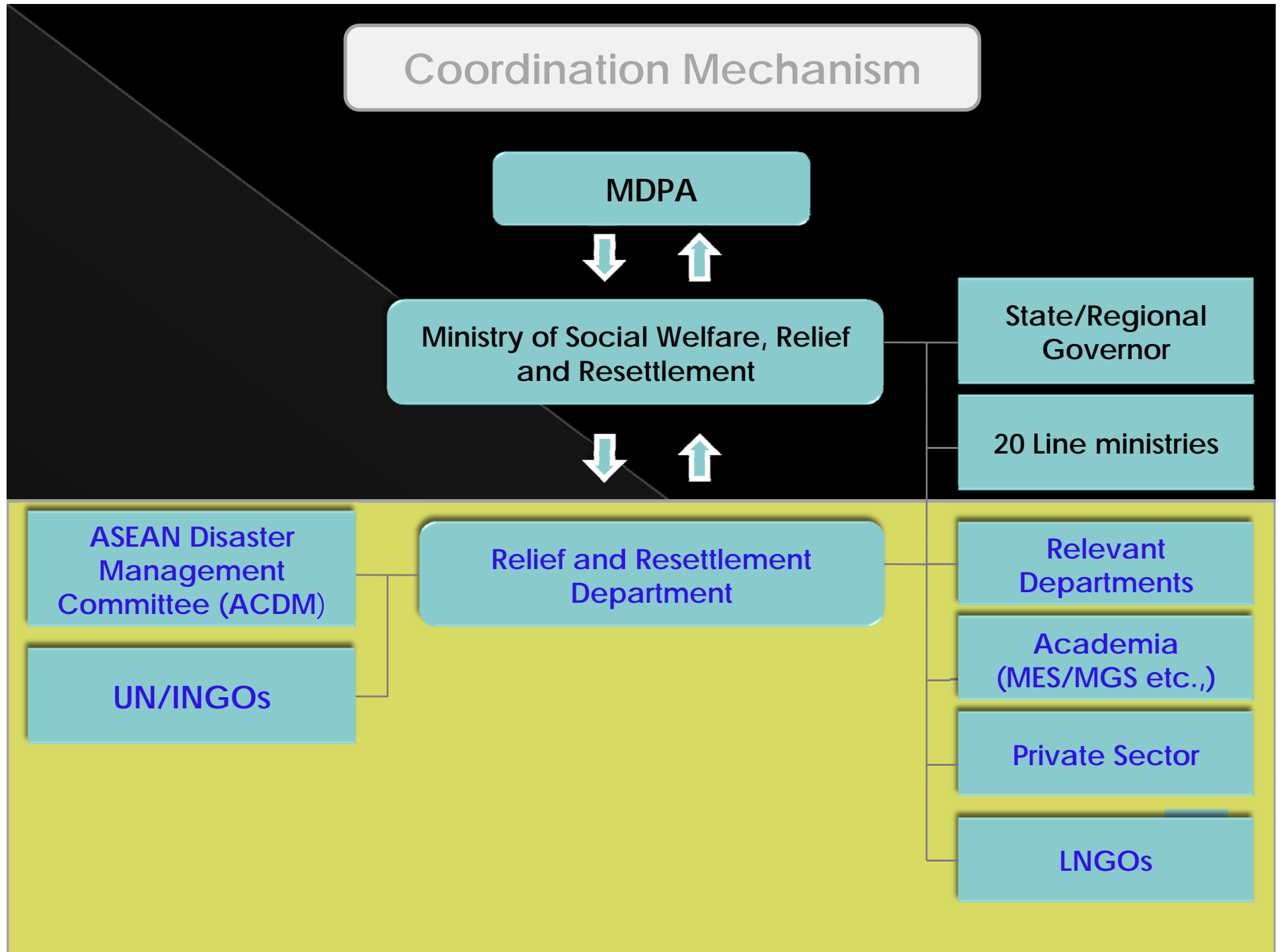
Relief and Resettlement Department

Relevant Departments

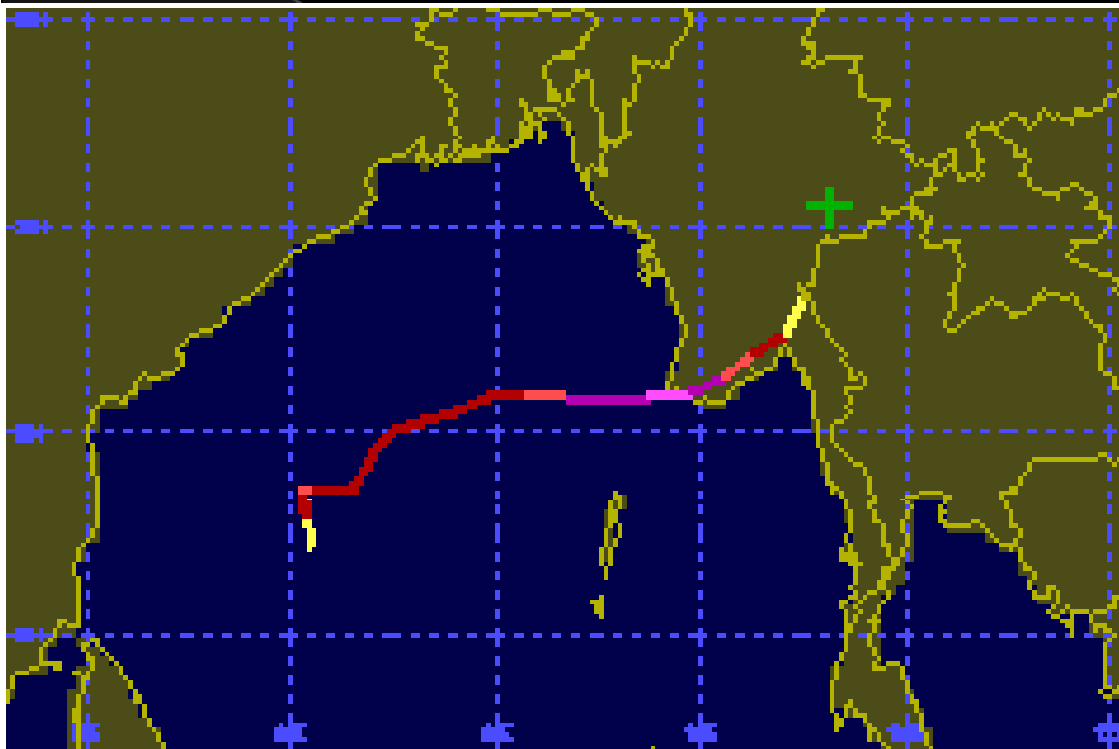
Academia (MES/MGS etc.,)

Private Sector

LNGOs



Cyclone Nargis Response and Recovery



Type	Category	Pressure (mb)	Winds (knots)	Winds (mph)	Line Color
Depression	TD	-----	< 34	< 39	Green
Tropical Storm	TS	-----	34-63	39-73	Yellow
Hurricane	1	> 980	64-82	74-95	Red
Hurricane	2	965-980	83-95	96-110	Light Red
Hurricane	3	945-965	96-112	111-130	Magenta
Hurricane	4	920-945	113-135	131-155	Light Magenta
Hurricane	5	< 920	>135	>155	White

- 2nd & 3rd May 2008
- 120 mile per hour of wind speed
- 3.6m storm surge
- Affected 3 regions and 2 states (Yangon Division, Ayeyarwaddy Division, Bago Division, Mon State and Kayin State)
- 37 townships in Ayeyawaddy and Yangon divisions were severely affected, covering an area of 23500 square kilometers, a slightly smaller than the country of Haiti

http://weather.unisys.com/hurricane/n_indian/2008/index.html

Damage and Loss

◎ Death toll	84537
◎ Missing	53836
◎ Injured	19359
◎ Totally damaged houses	450000
◎ Partially damaged houses	350000
◎ Damaged school	4000
◎ Health Facilities destroyed	75 %
◎ Farmland damaged (acre)	269530
◎ Affected population	2.4 million
◎ Total damage and Loss US\$ (billion)	4.1

Response Activities



Emergency Meeting 3 May 2008 (8:30 a.m)

DAMAGE DUE TO CYCLONE NARGIS



Response Activities



- ❖ Declaration of Disaster- affected Area
- ❖ Search and rescue
- ❖ Fulfilling immediate needs such as food, drinking water, medicine
- ❖ Managed relief camps

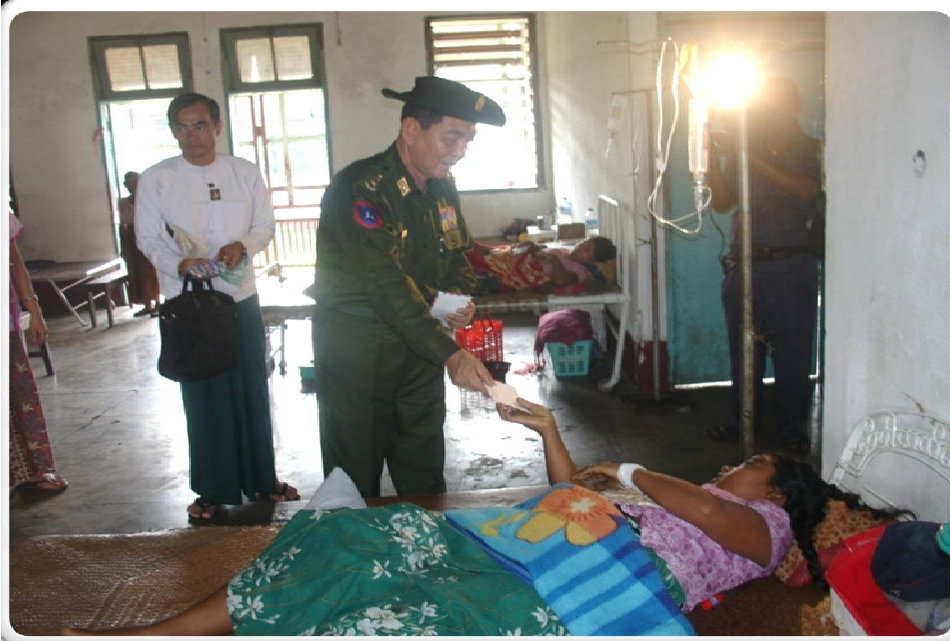


Emergency relief Provision



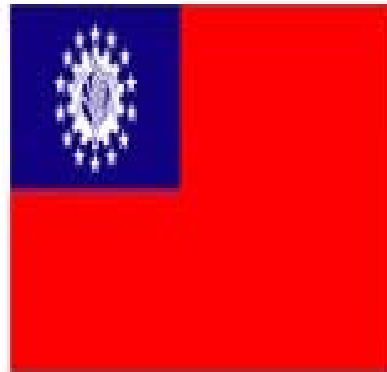
Assignment of Regional Supervisory Minister

A cabinet minister was assigned to each of the storm-hit townships for the close and effective supervision of relief and rehabilitation tasks in the township concerned.



Coordination Mechanism on Recovery and Rehabilitation in Nargis (2008)

- ❖ Special Foreign Minister Meeting held in Singapore on 19 May 2008 looked for how to help Cyclone hit victims of Myanmar
- ❖ ASEAN-UN International Pledging Conference in Yangon on 25 May 2008
- ❖ Tripartite Core Group was formed Comprising of three representatives each from ASEAN, UN & GoM.
- ❖ International humanitarian assistance were received through TCG.



(ASEAN, Government of Myanmar, United Nations)

TRIPARTITE
CORE
GROUP
(TCG)

Coordination Mechanism on Recovery and Rehabilitation in Nargis (2008)

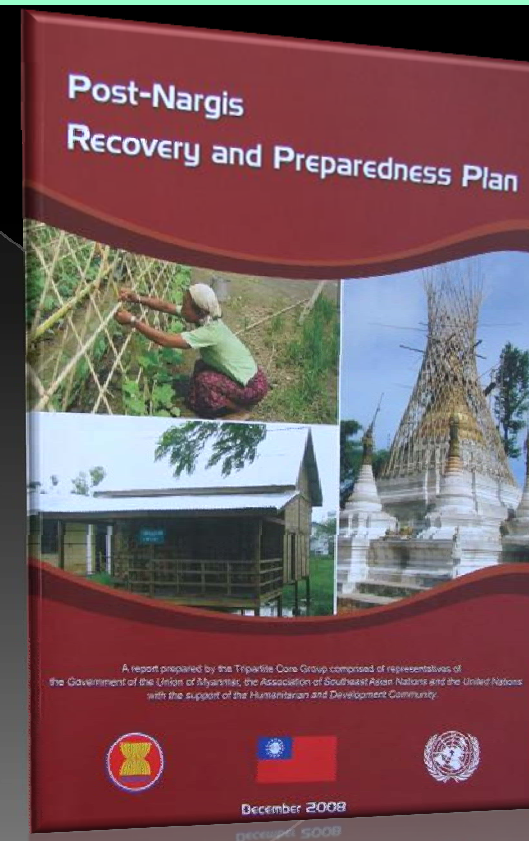
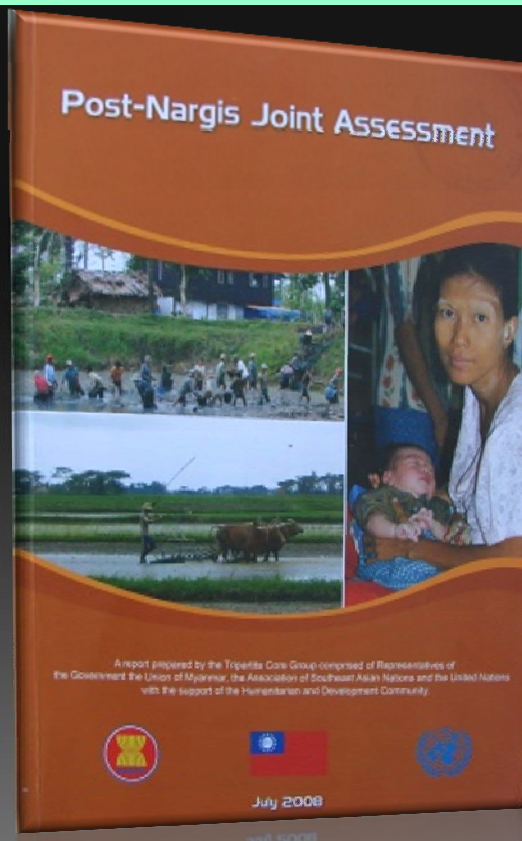
- ❖ Emergency Rapid Assessment Team (ERAT) was dispatched two times to conduct rapid assessment on immediate needs at the first time and to conduct Damage and Loss Assessment for second time.
- ❖ The deployment of ERAT to Myanmar is the first time in ASEAN practice.

DAMAGE AND LOSS ASSESSMENT (DALA) TEAM



Coordination Mechanism on Recovery and Rehabilitation in Nargis (2008)

- ❖ TCG developed Post-Nargis Joint Assessment (PONJA) and Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan (PONREPP).
- ❖ UN-system 11 Clusters was set up and implemented for the restoration of the lives of victims
- ❖ 48 INGOs and NGOs actively participated in the recovery activities



Government's Recovery Activities

Build Back Better



Provision for Agriculture Sector



❖ draught cattle,
❖ power tillers,
❖ fuel,
❖ paddy strains,
❖ insecticide
and fertilizers
were supported
to the farmers.

Government's Recovery Activities(cont-)

- ❖ Livelihood recovery for the victims
 - ❖ Agriculture/ Livestock breeding/ fishery/ Salt industry
- ❖ Reconstruction in housing and critical infrastructures
- ❖ Establishing new model villages to avoid recurring disasters
- ❖ Upgrading of health facilities
- ❖ Building road networks to take refuge and easy evacuation in case of disasters
- ❖ Building of bridges big and small in Ayeyawaddy Division for easy transportation and ensuring regional development
- ❖ Construction of Cyclone Shelters

Provision for fishery sector



၁-၁၁-၂၀၀၈၊ ငါးဖမ်းလှေပေးအပ်ပွဲမှ လှေများ၊
ရယူပြန်လည်ထွက်ခွာနေသော ဒေသခံပြည်သူများ

Provision for Salt Industry



❖ Loan provision

❖ Technological know how sharing



Reconstruction of Infrastructures



Reconstruction of Infrastructures (continue)



Involvement of Private Construction Companies



Lessons Learnt from Cyclone Nargis

- Poor preparedness for large scale disaster
- Dissemination of Early Warning to End Users
- Content of Early Warning did not highlight the severe impacts of 120-mile wind speed cyclone
- Degradation of environment enlarged the vulnerability of the community and leading to great damages
- Importance of Community Based Disaster Risk Management in Delta (difficult transportation)
- Lack of disaster-resistant safe shelters in coastal areas
- Poor transportation delayed distribution of relief materials (depends only on water way)
- Most of the fundings were spent on logistics because of difficult transportation

*Thank you
for your kind attention!*