

Thailand's Disaster Management System



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Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM)
Ministry of Interior, The Royal Thai Government

1. Country Profile



Total land area : 513,120 sq km (198,115 sq.mi)

Coastline : 3,219 km

Population : 65.729 Million (2016)

Capital City : Bangkok (pop: 5.7 M)

Other highly populated Cities : Nakorn Ratchasima (2.6M), Chiang Mai (1.7M), Nakorn Sri Thammarat (1.5M)

Administration units : Central Government, province or Changwat (76), District or Amphoe (838), Sub-District or Tambon (7,255) and Village or Moo-ban (74,965)

GDP : 395.3 Billion (2015)

Currency : Baht (THB)

Official language : Thai (ภาษาไทย)

Member of : United Nations (55th Member in 1946), ASEAN (1968), APEC (1989)

THAILAND



Fig.1 : Map of Thailand

2. Disaster Profile

Overview : The most common natural hazards Thailand is facing are flood, drought and landslide. Thailand has also experienced earthquake, tsunami, windstorm, bushfire and cold-spell. Common man-made disasters are urban fire and road accidents.

Past Major Disasters :

- **Typhoon Harriet in Surat Thani Province** (1962, Death: 911)
- **Typhoon Gay in Chumporn Province** (1989, Death: 537)
- **Major landslides in northern and southern parts of Thailand** (1988 and 2001, Death: 361)
- **The Indian Ocean Tsunami** (2004, Fatalities: 5,393 Missing: 3,066)
- **The 2011 Mega Flood :** (2011-2012, Death: 815, 13.6M people in 65 out of 77 provinces affected, Economic Loss : USD 45.7 billions)
- **Severe Drought :** 1979, 1986, 2005 and 2014

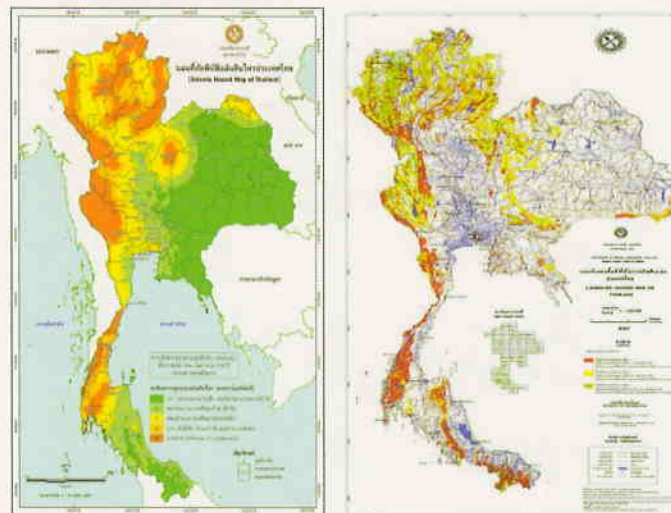


Fig.2 : Risk maps of earthquake and landslide



Landslide



Tsunami



severe drought



Earthquake



The 2011 Mega Flood

3. Thailand Disaster Management System

Overview : The disaster management system in Thailand is based on the 2007 Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Act and the National Plan on Disaster Prevention and Mitigation 2015. The National Committee on Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, is composed of disaster management related ministries, agencies as well as academia, is the top policy making body. The National Committee is chaired by the Prime Minister. DDPM is the Secretariat and executive arms of the National Committee.

Disaster Mangement Strategies

1. Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction into planning and development at all levels
2. Effective & integrated emergency management system
3. Sustainable disaster reconstruction and recovery with "Build Back Better" approach
4. International Cooperation

The National Disaster Management Implementation Mechanism

Based on the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Act B.E.2550 (2007), the Minister of Interior is the National Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Commander and assisted by DDPM, Regional Centers, Provincial Government and Local Governments (Fig. 3). And Fig.4 shows the four different levels of disaster management in Thailand

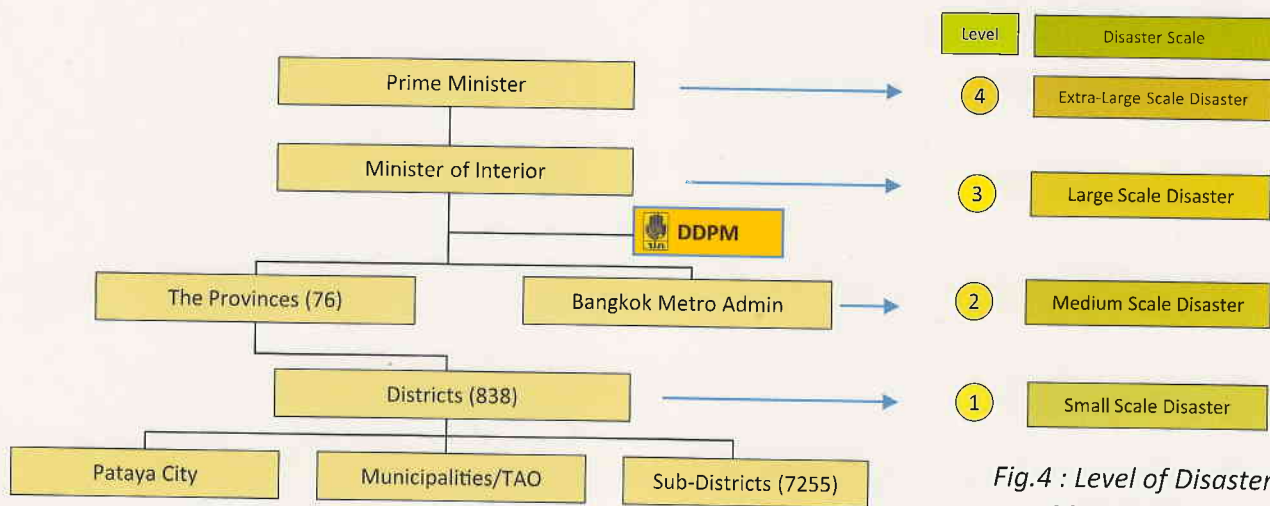


Fig.3 : Organization Chart of Implementation Body

Fig.4 : Level of Disaster Management

National Command Center Organization Chart : Figure 5 illustrates the formation of the National Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Command Center once it is activated.

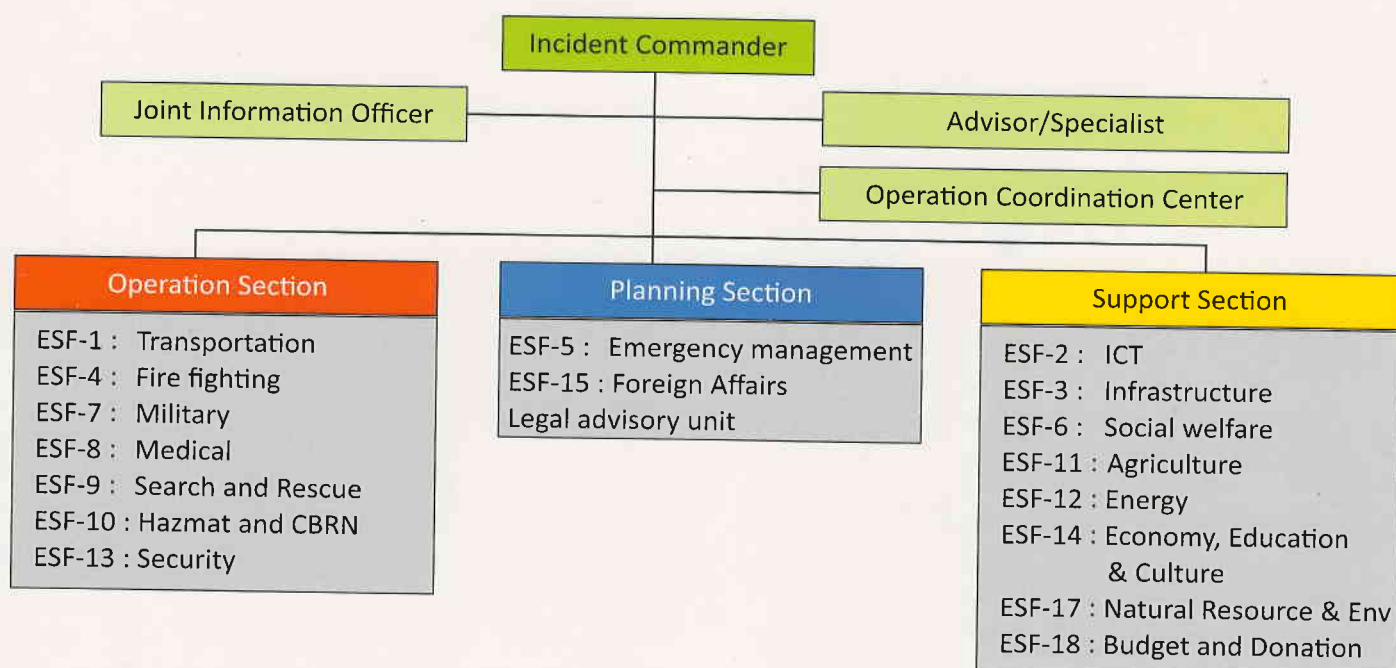


Fig.5 : The Command Structure of the National Disaster Command Center when activated.

4. Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation

History :

Pursuant to the 2002 Government Reform Act, DDPM was established on 9 October 2002 as a department under the Ministry of Interior (MOI).

Vision :

DDPM is the central national government agency responsible for disaster management that meets international standard to keep Thailand safe

Missions

1. Create and Develop disaster management system of Thailand in all phases including before, during and after disaster happening
2. Build disaster management education and awareness
3. Run an effective disaster management work to help save people's life and property
4. Assist disaster victims and develop effective disaster victim assistance system
5. Assist in disaster recovery to bring back livelihoods of the people to normalcy

Roles

DDPM plays its roles in the following areas:

1. Serve as Secretariat of the National Committee on Disaster Prevention and Mitigation
2. Serve as the coordination center for disaster management
3. Provide operational support to local and provincial governments

Personnel

As of January 2016 DDPM has 4,578 staff members working in HQ, Regional Centers and provincial offices nationwide.



DDPM HQ



Supporting Role of DDPM in Disaster Response Operation

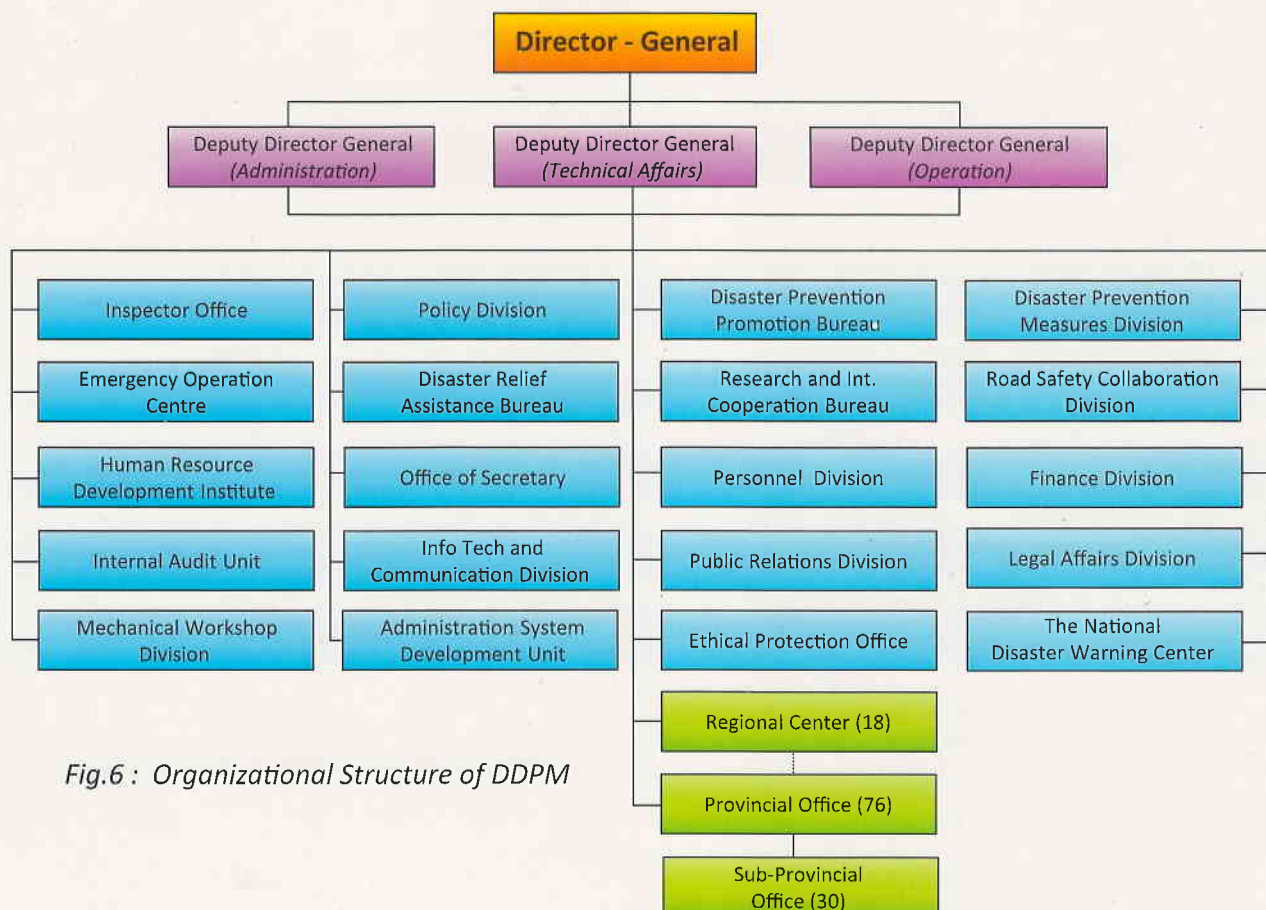


Fig.6 : Organizational Structure of DDPM

5. DDPM Programs and activities

Before Disaster

- **Flood Prevention Projects :**
Improve the efficiency of flood water drainage
- **Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)**
Helps community understand disaster risk faced and be prepared for disaster strike through workshop and training
- **Disaster Response Simulation Exercise**
Ensures that the disaster management managers and the people know what to do when hit by a disaster
- **Disaster risk education and awareness promotion**
Remind people of disaster threats through educational campaigns and educational means



Improvement of flood water ways

During Disaster

- **Disaster Early Warning System**
Put in place disaster early warning system in disaster prone areas including tsunami and flood. This is also assisted by the “Mr. Disaster Warning” project.
- **One Tambon One Rescue (OTOS)**
Make sure that in each of the sub-district (or tambon) is equipped with search and rescue team
- **Emergency Response Team (ERT)**
Support provincial and local governments in disaster response by this well trained disaster response officers



*Community - Based
Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Training*

After Disaster

- **The Disaster Emergency Relief Fund**
Empower provincial governors and DDPM with fund to assist disaster victims
- **Post Disaster Need Assessment (PDNA)**
Support disaster relief and early recovery through PDNA
- **Build Back Better Disaster Recovery**
Adopt this principle which is under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030



Tsunami Drill



Emergency Response Team



*DDPM's readiness to lead
in disaster response operation*

6. International Cooperation

Overview

Since its establishment in 2002, DDPM has been working closely with international partner organizations and countries in all areas of disaster management including disaster monitoring, early warning, prevention and mitigation, preparedness and response, disaster relief and recovery.

Partnerships with International bodies/agencies

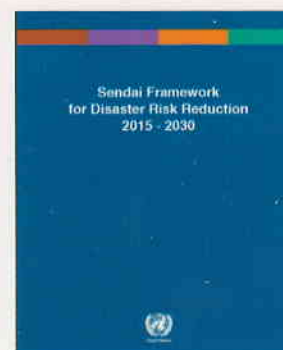
1. The ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and ACDM Working Groups
2. Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)
3. Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC)
4. The Typhoon Committee (TC)'s Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction
5. APEC's Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG)
6. ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)
7. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan
8. USAID & USFS
9. GIZ



ASEAN Cooperation Frameworks

International Frameworks and Guidelines

1. The ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the AADMER Work Programme 2016-2020
2. The ASEAN Declaration on One ASEAN One Response (OAOR)
3. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030
4. Bangkok Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction (The outcome of the 6th AMCDRR)
5. UNDAC/INSARAG Guidelines (UN-OCHA)
6. APC MADRO (UN-OCHA)
7. ASEAN SASOP and ERAT Guidelines (AHA Centre)
8. East Asia Summit (EAS) Disaster Management Tool Kits
9. IFRC's Guideline for International Disaster Relief Laws



The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030



Map of DDPM HQ

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