

**KEY FINDINGS - NEEDS ASSESSMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT IN AFRICA IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**REGIONAL WEBINARS IN AFRICA: RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY FROM COVID-19 THROUGH SOUND POLICYMAKING**

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**16 November, 2021, 8 am-10:30 am (EST)**

# CEPA Principles on effective governance

## Effectiveness, Accountability, Inclusiveness

### Effectiveness

- Competence
- **Sound Policy Making**
- Collaboration

### Sound Policy Making

- Strategic planning and foresight
- Regulatory impact analysis
- Promotion of coherent policymaking
- Strengthening national statistical systems
- Monitoring and evaluation systems
- Science-policy interface
- **Risk management frameworks**
- Data sharing

### Risk Management Frameworks

- National risk assessment
- National policies, laws and international commitments relevant to risk management
- Institutional arrangements for risk management
- Resilience of financing systems and financing risk management
- Technology for risk management
- Risk communication

# Introduction

## **Objectives**

- Understand the current trends in risk management in African states
- Explore capacity gaps..
- ..and opportunities for strengthening risk management in the public sector

## **Methodology**

- Overview of regional trends
- In-depth analysis of risk management in 7 countries (Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, South Africa, Zambia, Sierra Leone and Seychelles)
- Case studies/stories
- Data collection

# Key findings: Risk management practices

## **Risk assessments & monitoring**

- Natural disaster/climate focused
- Used for primarily for planning
- Technology used
- Other assessments available (APRM peer review, CCA, PEFA)

### **Gaps**

- National risk assessments /risk repositories. Use of foresight analysis? Utilisation

## **Institutional arrangements**

- National agencies for disaster management and climate action
- National coordination mechanisms for NDPs and SDGs
- Good practices – SA, Kenya

### **Gaps**

- Need for convergence, sub-national, lack of oversight mechanisms

## **National policies on risk management**

- Various national policies and laws
- NDPs focus on resilience, mainstream SDGs, disaster, CC
- International commitments
- Good practice –social protection reforms

### **Gaps**

- Integrated policies, inclusivity

## **Financing**

- Resilience of the financing system-weak macro-economic conditions
- Reforms initiated
- Low investments in DRR

### **Gaps**

- COVID-19 impacts, transparency, tap diverse and innovative resources, risk transfer instruments

## **Technology**

- Risk monitoring
- broader digitalization reforms initiated

### **Gaps**

- Internet penetration 25%, mobile phone 76%
- ICT/telecom infrastructure needed
- Regulatory environment
- Science capacities low

# Key findings: COVID-19 experiences

## COVID-19 response (ARPM)

- Legal and institutional mechanisms
- Disease prevention and containment measures
- Social and humanitarian measures
- Fiscal and monetary measures

## Good practices

- Leveraging existing platforms and past experience supported immediate response
- Recognizing synergy and 'big picture'
- Multi-stakeholder engagement
- Innovation

## Emerging lessons

- Need for more convergence in policy making
  - Inclusivity, gender
  - Address structural weaknesses
- Taking forward COVID-19 dividends
  - Digitalization
  - Health preparedness

# Capacity constraints

- **Political, leadership drive and commitment**

- Limited understanding of concepts, knowledge
- Timeframe

- **Institutional coordination and coherence**

- Lack of evidence to support coordination
- Top-down approaches
- Linked to leadership (above)

- **Budgetary constraints, stability of financing systems and ability to tap diverse sources of finance**

- Limited knowledge and capacity to tap new resources, design new instruments
- Limited evidence – diagnostics
- Coordination

- **Gaps in reliable data generation, sharing and utilization**

- Human and technical resources
- Financial resources – 1 billion
- Political economy – independence of NSOs

- **Investment needs in technology, digital applications and ICT infrastructure**

- Broadband and mobile phone coverage
- ICT infrastructure
- Skills gap

- **Human resource needs**

- Motivation
- Competency
- Technical capacity
- Adequacy of human resources
- Management capacity

# Key recommendations

## **1. Integrate risk management in existing systems and programmes**

- Integrate risk management in national policies, institutional coordination mechanisms, financing strategies for managing NDPs and SDGs.
- Adapt/tweak existing programmes for risk management delivery. E.g. social protection, digitisation, financial inclusion efforts to create a platform for delivering support/risk communication

## **3. Create effective reporting and accountability mechanisms**

- National level – leverage parliament and other oversight roles existing for NDPs and SDGs
- Local level – digital applications/CSOs
- Global and continental – revise guidelines for:
  - CCAs, VNRs, APRM peer review process

## **2. Consolidate policies and systems for improved coherence and synergy**

- Consolidate available assessments to produce national risk assessments and risk repository
- Bridge response capacities and COVID-19 with long-term priorities
- Institutional coherence and partnerships

## **4. Address resource gaps for implementing risk management**

- Leadership
- Human resources
- Data and technology needs
- Monetary resources
  - Align investment needs and financing policies



# Thank you

*For any comments and feedback, please contact  
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