



SNAPSHOT

This snapshot was designed to give a summary of IFRC Disaster Law's mapping of the International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) of the Kingdom of Eswatini framework, as provided in domestic laws and policies, and is the result of a desktop review of information publicly available online. The following questions have been drawn from the Checklist on the Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance (the IDRL Checklist) and the IDRL Guidelines.

Are there any laws or policies relating to DRM/DRR?

- The **Disaster Management Act (N° 1 of 2006)***
- The **National Emergency Response, Mitigation and Adaptation Plan (NEMARP 2016-2022)**

*A review of the DM Act is ongoing with the development of the **Disaster Risk Management Bill**.

Which governmental body or agency is in charge of DRM/DRR?

As per the DM Act, roles and responsibilities are shared between:

- The **Ministerial Disaster Management Team**, an inter-governmental advisory body ensuring sound policy and institutional framework for sustainable disaster management ;
- The **National Disaster Management Council** (the NDMC) is supporting the development of an integrated and coordinated disaster management (noting that the **Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society** is a member of the NDMC) ;
- The **National Disaster Management Agency** (the NDMA) is in charge of decreasing vulnerability and increasing preparedness and mitigation capacity (the Disaster Management Department is a part of the Deputy Prime Minister's Office oversight)
- At a regional level, Regional Disaster Management Committee are established (BRECS is also a member of the regional committees)

Are there procedures in place for the request and termination of international assistance?

Although there are no clear provisions relating to international assistance request, recommendations from the Ministerial Disaster Management Team can be made to the Prime Minister regarding the compliance with international obligations and regional cooperation.

Importantly, section 26(d) of the DM Act, provides that the National Emergency Committee shall act as the interface between the Government and the international community regarding emergency management and assistance matters.

Does the DRM legislation provide facilities to assisting actors?

Although the legislation does not provide specific facilities to international assisting actors, foodstuffs under Item 41211 of Schedule 4 of the Customs and Excise Act are eligible for customs duty rebate if they have an International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC) certificate. The VAT Act of 2011 also specifies zero rated goods under its Schedule 2 (mostly food items).

About IFRC Disaster Law

IFRC Disaster Law works with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and governments to strengthen disaster risk governance, through the development and implementation of disaster and emergency-related legislation, policies and procedures.

With 20 years of experience supporting the development and implementation of disaster law and policy around the world, we are the global leader in disaster law technical advice to governments.

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