



International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

UN/ISDR *services*

To UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams

*Prepared for the Workshop in Panama for Resident Coordinators-Humanitarian Coordinators
16-18 June 2008*



UN/ISDR secretariat mission:

Catalyze, facilitate and mobilize commitment and support for the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and the Hyogo Framework in partnership with national, regional and international actors of the ISDR system to reduce disaster risk

The ISDR is a system of partnerships for disaster risk reduction. Partners include governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, international financial institutions, scientific and technical bodies and specialized networks as well as civil society and the private sector.

The UN/ISDR secretariat serves as the focal point in the United Nations system to coordinate disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among the disaster-reduction activities of the United Nations System and regional organizations, and activities in the socio-economic and humanitarian fields. UN/ISDR not only offers services and products to countries to reduce disaster risk, it also brokers support from the ISDR system partners to countries.

The secretariat offers advocacy and information services, electronic and printed materials and tools, temporary advisory services from staff in the regional offices, or other resource persons to support Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UN Country Teams (UNCTs) for making disaster risk reduction a national priority and to raise the awareness of the subject, as set out in the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-21015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA). Officially designated national HFA Focal Points (and in an increasing number of countries, designated “national platforms”) are the formal entry points to the UN/ISDR secretariat.

Services include:

- 1 Support to progress monitoring and assessments of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) implementation through tools or regional assistance (including training on HFA progress monitoring tool to UNRC team members in order to support the national authorities for effective and quality reporting).
 - HFA-Monitor process and electronic tool available (<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/hfa-monitoring/>).
 - Biennial reports requested for Governments to present at the Global Platform and as inputs to a Global Assessment Report.
 - A global assessment report will be published in 2009 coinciding with the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, with a section on global risk update, one on poverty reduction and disaster risk reduction; and one section analysing progress in HFA implementation. UNDP and WB are main sponsors of this report, coordinated by UN/ISDR, with many agencies, Governments, regional organizations and others contributing analysis and content.
- 2 Assistance through experts or resource persons for:
 - Assistance in the process of establishing national platforms and national dialogues in accordance with the Hyogo Framework (national coordination mechanisms for integrating disaster risk reduction) by providing advice, contacts, information and workshops for initiating processes or

assessment purposes. Work with UNCT and with national authorities, acting as a broker for the provision of technical expertise and resources to national and thematic programmes

- Opportunities for visibility and participation of national policy and decision makers in ISDR sponsored international and regional fora such as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (15-19 June 2009, Geneva), regional platform meetings, including Ministerial meetings, and thematic workshops, where high-level authorities meet for policy guidance, information sharing and lessons learned. Participants include regional organizations.
- Review or advice on mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in CCA/UNDAF processes, together with CADRI, UNDP, UNEP, OCHA and the UNDG/ISDR Task Team on Disaster Risk reduction-2008.
- Training in local level development planning with risk reduction approach, preparedness and recovery in partnership with ILO International Training Centre in Turin.

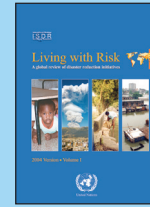
3 Brokering supporting coordination and facilitation services linked to ISDR system:

- An inter-agency group convened in Geneva, is implementing an ISDR system-wide joint work programme with results and guidance relating to all the priority areas of the HFA; Inter-agency directory on DRR and guidelines underway. The inter-agency group includes FAO, IFRC, ILO, OCHA, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, WMO, and the World Bank.
- Collaborative partnership between UN/ISDR and the World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery as a vehicle for the integration of disaster risk reduction into poverty reduction strategies, national dialogues and recovery assessments – possibility to seek funds for national programmes and south-south cooperation, and for recovery support (see: www.gfdr.org).
- Thematic groups and platforms globally and/or in the regions, led by specialized agencies or expert institution which all represent a network of experts and prepare guidelines (i.e. on Early Warning; Education; Urban Risk; Recovery; Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction; Environment; Global NGO Network; Gender and Disaster Reduction Network; Media Network).

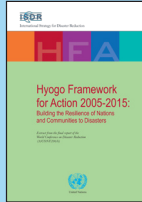
Tools



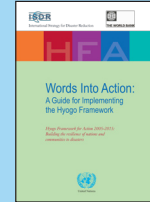
Special web-service for Resident Coordinators in the Americas www.eird.org/coordinadores/residentes.html, and Interactive system for facilitating information exchange and improved reporting www.eird.org/wiki.



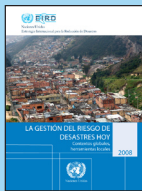
Living with Risk, A global review of disaster reduction initiatives (available in English and Spanish) www.unisdr.org/lwr



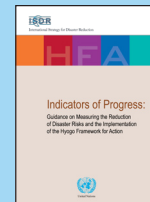
Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters www.unisdr.org/hfa



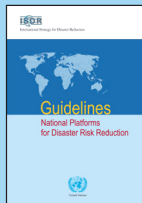
Words into Action; Implementing the Hyogo Framework (available in English, being translated into Spanish) www.unisdr.org/words-into-action



La Gestión del Riesgo de Desastres Hoy: contextos globales, herramientas locales, a compilation of topics and tools to guide national and local stakeholders <http://eird.org/gestion-del-riesgo/index.html>



Indicators of progress: Guidance on Measuring the Reduction of Disaster Risks and the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, (English); and a special edition prepared by OCHA for Preparedness indicators www.unisdr.org/indicator-of-progress www.unisdr.org/disaster-preparedness-for-effective-response



National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction Guidelines (English, French, Spanish, Russian) www.unisdr.org/guidelines-np-drr-eng



Global review 2007 (progress review on risk patterns and implementation of disaster risk reduction and HFA) www.unisdr.org/drr-2007-global-review



Early Warning Checklist- prepared in many languages (www.unisdr.org/ppew/)



Biennial awareness campaigns:
2006-07 Education and Safer Schools <http://www.unisdr.org/wdrc-2006-2007>
2008-09 Hospitals Safe from Disaster: Reduce Risk, Protect Health Facilities, Save Lives <http://www.unisdr.org/wdrc-2008-2009>

Available on the websites are other policy guidelines and application tools for the integration of disaster risk reduction in climate change adaptation processes; development; collection of good practices; selected bibliographies (UN/ISDR co-sponsors the Regional Disaster Information Centre for Disasters CRID (www.crid.or.cr), awareness raising material, media and audio visual products.