



Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative

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Global Forum for Urban Risk Reduction

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Geneva

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Empowering local governments and local communities in implementing disaster risk reduction

Objectives of this meeting

1. To continue the consultative process and gather opinions on the proposed Global Forum for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction
2. To launch the Global Forum
3. To compile input on the type of activities that could be undertaken by the Global Forum

Context and Premise

1. We need strong impetus for urban disaster risk reduction (*piece-meal approach does not work*)
2. We need a collaborative effort from all the stakeholders - *no organization can do it alone*
3. Any effort must involve cities and be framed in the reality of cities

Proposal

Put in place a
Global Forum for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction

A partnership for a common interest in urban DRR

Include the Global Forum as a thematic cluster in the
Global Platform

Background

1. Extensive initial consultations started in 2005 and included World Bank, UNDP, OECD, Secretariat of the ISDR, UN-HABITAT; OCHA, ProVention Consortium, IFRC and other UN organizations
2. Extension of consultations to Local Government Organizations (UCLG, METROPOLIS, ICLEI, and CITYNET)
3. Input from cities: Manila, Quito, Tehran, Mumbai, others
4. Consultations with selected NGO's, scientific organizations and other organizations
5. Consultations with Government of Japan, and other governments (Swiss, Sweden, GTZ)

Documentation

- ❑ Developed a concept paper
- ❑ Circulated the concept paper and incorporated input from a wide range of stakeholders

Overall Support

Initial consultations provided a general agreement
that a global impetus for urban DRR was a good
idea

Consultation Meetings

- ❑ Initial consultation meeting took place in Geneva between key UN institutions, ProVention Consortium and EMI (September 2006)
 - Undertake an organizational meeting to group representatives from key organizations and institutions engaged in urban risk

- ❑ First Organizational Meeting took place in Kobe, Japan on 12-13 April 2007

Kobe Meeting: Participants

- ❑ Organizers: UNDP, UN-Habitat; Secretariat of ISDR; EMI
- ❑ Hosts: Government of Japan; Kobe University
- ❑ Other Participants
 - Four city organizations: UCLG; METROPOLIS; ICLEI; CITYNET
 - Several cities: Kobe, Manila, Makati, Quito, Hyogo Prefecture; Tehran, Mumbai
 - JICA; ADRC
 - UN-HABITAT, Secretariat of ISDR, UNDP, ProVention Consortium, IFRC, UNCRD, IRP;

KOBE MEETING: Outcome

- ❑ Consensus on the creation of the **Global Forum for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction** as a Thematic Cluster of the Global Platform
- ❑ Leading role of cities and City Organizations recognized
- ❑ Main focus should be on solving city-level DRR problems and on supporting cities in implementing DRR
- ❑ Other roles:
 - Awareness and advocacy
 - Knowledge depository and knowledge dissemination/sharing
 - Coordination and harmonization of actions

KOBE MEETING: Outcome

❑ Put in place of a Consultative Group

- Local Government Organizations: UCLG; METROPOLIS; ICLEI, CITYNET
- Cities: Makati City
- City Partners: EMI
- UN-HABITAT; UNDP; Secretariat of ISDR
- ProVention Consortium
- Academia: Kobe University

❑ Organize this Side Event

Suggested Concrete Immediate Actions (12-18 Months)

- ❑ Training of urban professionals and managers
- ❑ City-to-City technical exchanges
- ❑ Opportunistic awareness and advocacy activities
(e.g., UCLG Congress; WUF)

Please review the Concept Note for more details

Thank you and let's proceed with the discussions