



Sharing Knowledge: the experience of the Field Library for Disaster Reduction

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www.unisdr.org/library



Inter-Agency Field Library for Disaster Reduction

Inter-Agency Library on Disaster Reduction

- located at the IEH 2, ground floor
- open to the public
- comprises more than 11,000 items
- uses Voyager and MARC 21 for its online catalog
- manages the project « Field Library for Disaster Reduction »
- products: virtual libraries, ISDR-Biblio, compilation of UN official documents on disaster reduction, videos





Inter-Agency Field Library for Disaster Reduction

What is a Field Library for Disaster Reduction?





Goal, objectives and target audiences

- **Goal:**
 - to contribute to the dissemination of academic knowledge on disaster risk reduction to institutions in developing countries in support of creating a culture of disaster prevention
- **Objectives:**
 - enhance public awareness and wider access to information on hazards, vulnerability and risks by providing “Disaster Reduction Libraries” to recognized local institutions, in particular in hazard-prone areas
 - creating a culture of disaster prevention resulting in more resilient communities
- **Audience:** Governments bodies, local leaders, regional institutions, research centers, universities, schools, NGOs, Libraries, UN agencies, ISDR National Platforms



Why a Field Library?

- lack of knowledge to support practitioners, researchers, students
- lack of financial resources
- difficulty in using Internet



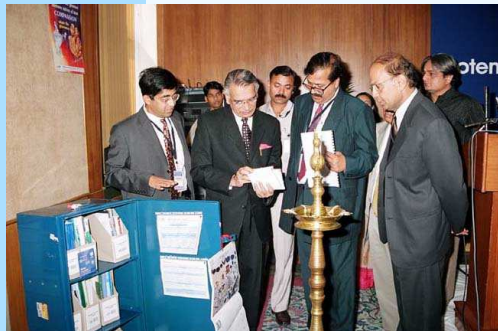


Inter-Agency Field Library for Disaster Reduction

PHASE ONE



- This pilot project was launched by the UN/ISDR in October 2005 in Indonesia and India in collaboration with UNDP country offices and national governments.
- The pilot field library initiative has been well received and appreciated.
- With the financial support received from the UN Humanitarian Flash Appeal for the tsunami disaster **40** libraries were distributed to the countries most affected by the tsunami by July 2006.





PHASE TWO

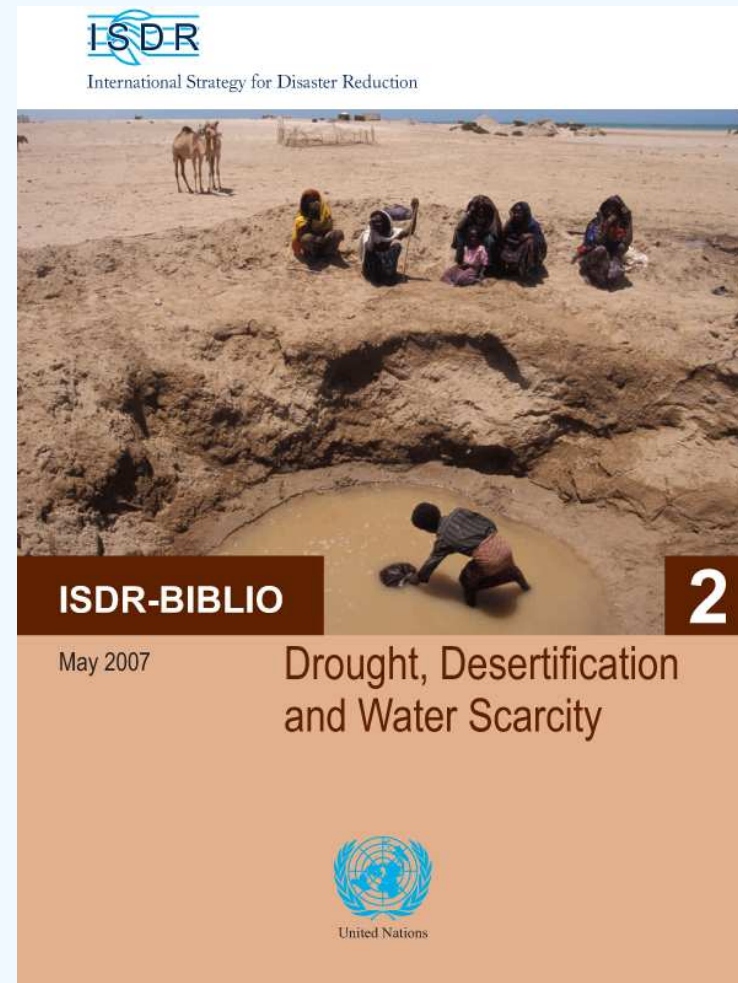
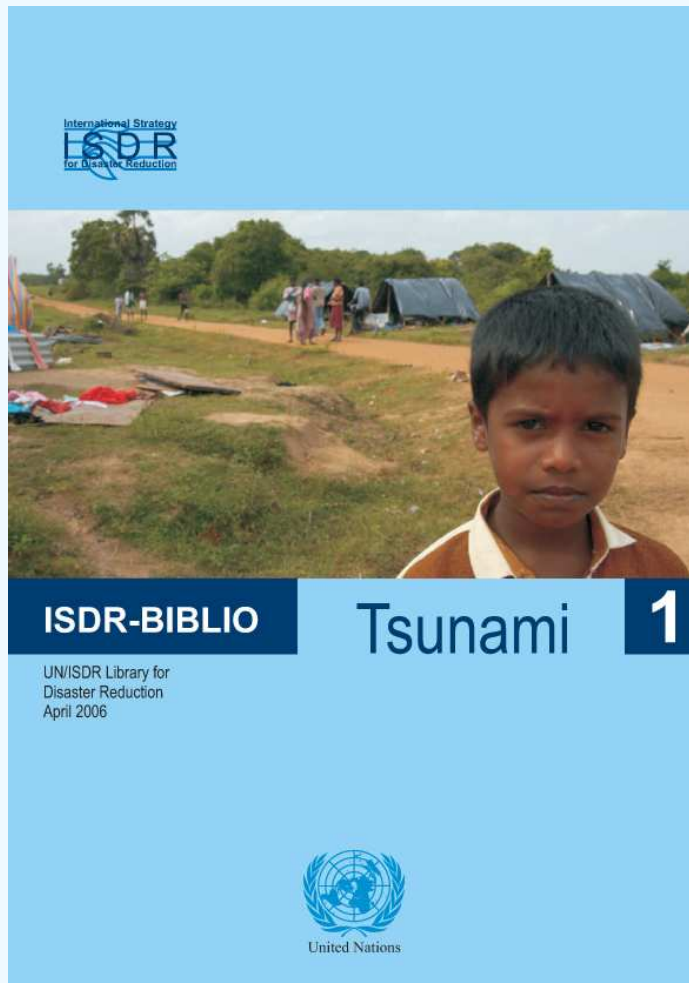
- the project has been reviewed
- information organized in the form of modules by type of hazards and topics
- a committee will list most relevant literature and decide on the « Best 10/5/... titles » for each module
- the project fits within the priority areas of the HFA
- fundraising: traditional donors and Foundations
- implement the field library worldwide in English, French and Spanish

Target: 500 libraries distributed by 2009



Inter-Agency Field Library for Disaster Reduction

Modules





Inter-Agency Field Library for Disaster Reduction

Bibliothèque de terrain – Prévention et aléas naturels

- Project title:** “La prévention des situations de risques et de crises: diffuser, mobiliser et saisir l’information sanitaire” (Crisis and risk reduction: mobilizing, collecting and sharing knowledge in crisis or sanitation risk situations)
- Goals:**
- study how information on risk and risk crisis situations is collected, centralised, shared and used
 - transfer of academic knowledge: translation into a simplified and comprehensive language to practitioners
- Executive Agencies:** ISDR/GIAN (Geneva International Academic Network)
- Duration:** 14 months (September 2006-October 2007)
- Case Study:** Madagascar



Bibliothèque de terrain – Prévention et aléas naturels





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Inter-Agency Field Library for Disaster Reduction

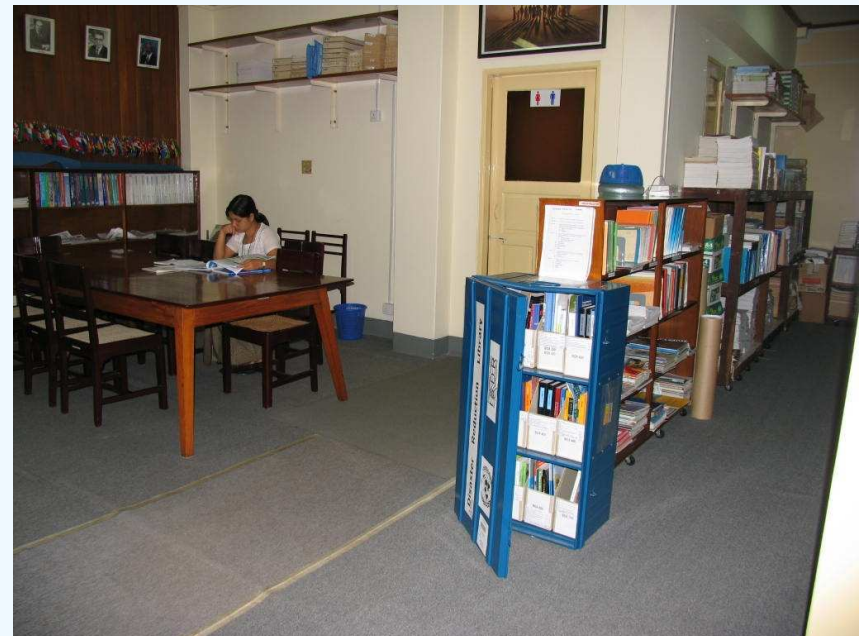




Conclusion

The success of this initiative depends on:

- **commitment**
- **follow-up in the countries**
- **good fund-raising strategy**





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THANK YOU