



United Nations
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Linking actors in disaster risk reduction in Europe

www.unisdr.org

Disaster Prevention Workshop

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Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015:

Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters

... to substantially reduce disaster losses, in lives, social, economic and environmental assets....

Three strategic goals

- The integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning.
- The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards.
- The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes.



Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015:

Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters

Five priorities for action

1. **Governance:** ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with strong institutional basis for implementation
2. **Risk identification:** identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning
3. **Knowledge:** use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels
4. **Reducing the underlying risk factors** in various sectors (environment, health, construction, etc.)
5. **Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response**



*Words Into Action:
A Guide for Implementing the Hyogo Framework*

www.unisdr.org/eng/hfa/docs/Words-into-action/Words-Into-Action.pdf

ISDR secretariat's main functions:

- (a) **Policy and coordination** (*guide & monitor implementation of HFA*)
- (b) **Advocacy** (*high-level advocacy, annual awareness campaign, publications*)
- (c) **Information management and networks** (*website, clearinghouse*)
- (d) **Regional outreach- support to regional partners & countries** (*national platforms and action plans- policy, advocacy, information*)
- (e) **ISDR system and resource mobilization**



Role of UNISDR Europe in mobilising players for disaster prevention

- UNISDR's role is the one of an “honest broker” with a regional perspective. We connect the stakeholders, share the best knowledge, set overarching strategies, and gain commitment to ever more progressive political agendas.
- In Europe UNISDR works closely with national key partners (a.i. HFA focal points and NPs) involved in DRR to coordinate and promote with them the implementation of the HFA.
- At regional level UNISDR Europe is responsible for coordinating the efforts of the DRR community in promoting inter-countries exchanges and synergies for an effective use of resources and regionally sound strategies among governments and regional organizations involved in DRR.
- UNISDR supports and facilitates the establishment and development of National Platform for DRR at country level.

HFA and NPs in Europe Region

Out of 46 Countries:

33 have designated HFA Focal Points

Albania, [Austria](#), Bosnia & Herzegovina, Armenia, [Bulgaria](#), Croatia, [Czech Rep](#), [Denmark](#), [Finland](#), FYI of Macedonia, [France](#), Georgia, [Germany](#), [Greece](#), [Hungary](#), Iceland, [Italy](#), [Malta](#), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, [Poland](#), [Portugal](#), [Romania](#), Russian Federation, Serbia, [Slovenia](#), [Spain](#), [Sweden](#), Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, [United Kingdom](#).

12 Countries have developed a National Platform:

[Bulgaria](#), [Czech Republic](#), FYI of Macedonia, [France](#), [Germany](#), [Hungary](#), [Italy](#), Monaco, Russian Federation, [Spain](#), [Sweden](#), Switzerland.

Countries in final stages of developing a NPs or pending official communication to UNISDR:

Turkey, Norway, Poland, Georgia

Linking actors at national level: promoting National Platforms establishment and development

- UNISDR Europe facilitates, supports and stimulates the establishment of country-level national platforms:
 - Providing guidelines on establishing National Platforms (<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=601>)
 - Promoting knowledge sharing and example of good practices (<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=3292>)
 - Facilitating exchanges among European countries with existing and running National Platforms and those in the process of establishing one.
 - Providing, in collaboration with other international and regional organizations (such as UNDP, CADRI and DPPI SEE), capacity building and training on establishment and development of NP.

Other examples of UNISDR support to National Platforms

- Help in planning and implementing multi-stakeholder dialogues as a prerequisite to the launch of National Platforms
- With ISDR system partners, help in setting up National Platforms through technical support to National workshops
- Institutional analyses of NPs to optimise their functioning
- Development of guidance documents and good practice collections
- Contribution to UNDP-led processes to elaborate Strategic National Action Plans and to ensure alignment with the HFA
- Facilitation of exchange and “twinning” arrangements among NPs to promote lessons learning and capacity development

Regional key actors in promoting DRR

- **Council of Europe – EUR-OPA Agreement:** The Agreement is “partial”, as not all member States of the Council of Europe participate, but also “open”, as 3 Southern Mediterranean countries count among its members. It has to date 25 Member States.
- **European Union/European Commission:** 27 Member States DG Environment (Civil Protection), DG Relex, DG Research, DG Enlargement, DG ECHO and others
- **DPPI SEE– Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for SEE:** 12 Member States
- **RCC SEE – Regional Cooperation Council for SEE:** 12 Member States
- **CEUDIP - Central European Disaster Prevention Forum:** 6 Member States
- **A European Network of NPs:** 4 Member States
- **OECD - Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development:** 40 Countries

Linking actors at regional level: promoting a European Regional Platform

UNISDR Europe facilitates and supports, in collaboration with other regional organizations involved in DRR (e.g. EC, CofE EUR-OPA, a ENNP, etc..) and national players (e.g. national platforms and HFA Focal Points):

- Regular meetings of HFA and NP representatives in Europe for knowledge sharing, networking and promotion of concerted regional proposals for policy makers in the areas of DRR and CC adaptation. These meetings built the ground of a “*de facto*” European Regional Platform.

To facilitate the development of such Regional Platform, UNISDR will (August 2009) share an initial draft on the Regional Platform, based on other region experiences, to European NPs and HFA focal points for their review and comments;

- Promoting capacity building and training at regional and sub-regional level (e.g. SEE NPs workshop in Croatia, Sept. 09).
- Promoting regional lessons learnt and information sharing in DRR in collaboration with other international, regional and national organizations (recent 2009 examples are UNISDR supported HFA European report and the review of the role, mandate and structure of civil protection in SEE).

Sharing good practices: publications, producing and sharing knowledge in DRR

UNISDR Europe promotes sharing of good practices among countries. From 2007 to today, UNISDR in collaboration with international, regional and national partners (WB, UNOCHA, WMO, UNDP, EC, RCC, DPPI SEE, DKKV, Italian Civil protection, etc...) developed a series of publications (mainly supported by GFDRR) for information sharing on DRR and related fields, here some examples of the most recent ones:

- Implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action in Europe: advances and challenges (2009)
- The structure, role and mandate of civil protection in disaster risk reduction for South Eastern Europe (2009)
- Strengthening the hydrometeorological services in South Eastern Europe (2008)
- Mitigating the adverse financial effects of natural hazards on the economies of South Eastern Europe: a study of disaster risk financing options (2008)
- Risk assessment for South Eastern Europe. Desk review. (2008)

Sharing good practices: ex. key events organized in Europe in the last biennium for networking and sharing knowledge in DRR

- ✓ February 2008, Slovenia as EU Presidency: Seminar on strengthening cooperation with the candidate countries and Western Balkan countries in the field of Civil Protection. (Slovenia, EC DG Envir - Civil Protection Unit) – UNISDR, DG Enlarge, WB, WMO.
- ✓ April 2008, France: NPs and HFA Focal Points meeting - Council of Europe, UNISDR in collaboration with DKKV.
- ✓ April 2008, Bulgaria – DPPI-RCC: Ministerial meeting on disaster preparedness and management in SEE (Outcomes: Agreement on the development of a 2 year workplan on DRM in SEE;) – DPPI SEE, RCC, NATO, UNISDR, WB.
- ✓ June 2008, Switzerland: Role of modern civil protection systems and the new global challenges: from the Hyogo Framework for Action to real time response - Italy in collaboration with Switzerland, Russian Federation (EMERCOM), Egypt, EU DG Environ. Civil Protection, UNISDR and UNOCHA –
- ✓ October 2008: Regional Conference on the Southeastern and Central Europe Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility : WB-UNISDR-RCC (Part of SEE Initiative) Endorsement of technical finding and agreement to contact Prime Ministers in the region to contribute to funds for the development of Central Europe Disaster Risk Catastrophe Insurance

Sharing good practices: key events organized in Europe in the last biennium for networking and sharing knowledge in DRR

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- ✓ October 2008, Moldova: Regional scientific and technical conference on the role of the NMHSs in prevention and mitigation of natural hazard impact. Moldova-WMO-UNISDR-WB.
- ✓ November 2008, France as EU Presidency: Risq-ue 2008: Conference on natural disaster risk reduction From Past Disasters to Challenge in Climate Change in Europe
- ✓ November 2008, Greece: UNESCO Meeting on DRR and Cultural Heritage
- ✓ November 2008, Turkey and EUROPA International Workshop – On local Governance and disaster risk reduction.
- ✓ November 2008: Overview course on disaster risk reduction, response and recovery: Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB Former SRSA) – in collaboration with CADRI (UNDP/UNISDR/UNOCHA)

The way forward (2009) in linking DRR key partners in Europe and promoting good practices

Sharing knowledge and good practices in establishing and developing NP:

- Sep 09, Bosnia and Herzegovina: - NP workshop – WB/UNISDR/CADRI/UNDP B&H/DPPI SEE
- Sep 09, Croatia: - SEE NP workshop and back to back EWS workshop : WB/UNISDR/CADRI/Croatia/DPPI SEE/WMO

Linking actors promoting networking and good practices sharing:

- Nov 09, UK: HFA and NP Focal Points meeting. UNISDR/CofE EUR-OPA/UK

Capacity building and information sharing:

- Oct 09, Belgium: Workshop on Scientific Community and Policy Stakeholders dialogue, EC/UNISDR

Conclusions:

Actions and practices contributing to mobilizing actors a few examples:

Global level:

- Make use of existing tools developed to gather experiences, share expert knowledge and information and calendar of events: [PreventionWeb](#);
- UNISDR publications on good practices (national and local experiences in addressing DRR in different fields): Education, National Platform, Community engagement etc...
- UNISDR Campaigns: DRR begins at schools; Safe Hospital; Urban Risks;

Regional Level:

Ex. - Use existing structures and events: Regional Platform for DRR as the venue to exchange experiences and information at the regional level based on national experiences;

National and local level:

- NGOs Network on DRR;
- National Platform for DRR (Macedonia, Italy and many other examples);

PreventionWeb: the ISDR System Website



The screenshot shows the PreventionWeb website with a navigation bar at the top containing 'Home', 'Login or Register', and 'Contact Us'. Below the navigation bar is a search box and a menu with categories: 'HYOGO FRAMEWORK', 'COUNTRIES & REGIONS', 'THEMES & ISSUES', 'HAZARDS', and 'PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Fact sheets:** Includes 'Climate change and disaster risk reduction', 'What is PreventionWeb?', and 'What is the Hyogo Framework for Action?'.
- Events Calendar:** Lists events such as 'UNEP Governing Council global ministerial environmental forum' and '4th Annual Resilient management authorities conference'.
- Climate change alert for Bahrain:** A featured article dated 17 February 2009, discussing the impact of climate change on Bahrain and the surrounding region.
- Philippines: Field offices to disseminate results of geohazard mapping:** An article dated 17 February 2009, reporting on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' efforts to disseminate geohazard mapping results.
- Water:** A section titled 'DRR & water hazards management' with a sub-header 'Explore the topic and contribute to the discussion'.
- Maps:** A section titled 'Explore the collection: hazard, risk & vulnerability maps'.
- DRR Publications:** Lists publications such as 'Index awareness for climate risk management and poverty reduction: Topics for ISDR 2007' and 'Poverty trap and climate risk: Limitations and opportunities of index-based risk financing - working paper 2007'.
- Training Calendar:** Lists training events like 'Facilitating community managed disaster risk reduction course'.
- People in DRR (Audio):** A section featuring an audio interview with 'Ms. Isabella Mathurin, DRR & Research Specialist for Sri Lanka, OCHA'.
- Get involved:** A section encouraging users to 'Join one of many working networks'.
- Featured Partners:** Lists partners such as 'Integrated Risk Governance Project', 'Resilient Cameroon', and 'Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) Project'.
- Alerts on disasters:** A section listing disaster alerts for 'Algeria', 'Cote d'Ivoire', 'Ghana', 'India', 'Liberia', and 'SARFWeb (in Spanish)'.

At the bottom left, there is a section for the 'ISDR secretariat' with the ISDR logo and the text 'Facilitating and coordinating the strengthened ISDR system'.

Supporting the work of:

- the ISDR System
- the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action

Providing a common information platform for the disaster risk reduction community to:

- find & share information
- exchange experience
- connect & collaborate

Join the process:

www.preventionweb.net/submit

Meeting of the European National Platform and HFA focal points
 19-20 February 2009, Bonn, Germany
 Presented by Sarah Wade-Huffman
 Managing Editor, PreventionWeb
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Thank you

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