



International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Event on Disaster Risk Reduction in South Eastern Europe

8th March 2011

Venue: Campidoglio Palace, Rome, Italy

This Senior Level South Eastern Europe event, focusing on disaster risk reduction, is hosted by the Italian Civil Protection and co-organised with the World Bank, UNISDR Europe Office, and the European Commission. This event will take place in the context of the South East Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Programme (SEEDRMAP), developed in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) aiming to reduce the vulnerability of the countries of South Eastern Europe (SEE) to the risks of disasters.

This event is organised back-to-back to the Launch of the Mid-Term Review of the “Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters” on 9th March 2011.

The meeting intends to continue strengthening the efforts in DRR in the SEE region to provide opportunities to exchange on achievements, challenges and next steps in addressing disaster risk reduction topics.

The following focus areas have been identified:

➤ ***Risk Transfer: Mitigating the Adverse Financial Effects of Natural Hazards on the Economies of SEE.***

This session seeks to inform on the development and the value of insurance and transfer. It will provide the opportunity of looking at risk reduction through the eyes of citizens, as well as advances on the South Eastern Europe Catastrophe Insurance Facility (SEE CRIF). The developments of insurance and risk transfer in SEE is considered as a topic of increasing relevance in the discussions on European themes.

➤ ***Cities, Schools and Hospitals Safety (ISDR Making Cities Resilient: "My city is getting ready" Campaign)***

Reducing vulnerability at the local level has been identified as a priority of the HFA and by governments that are keen to develop action plans to reduce vulnerability to disasters. In this context the campaign offers the opportunity to address cities and safety including through schools and hospitals safety. This session will see experiences from cities in SEE that have joined the campaign with the aim to learn from experiences and trigger exchanges opportunities by cities that have joined or will join the campaign.

➤ ***Governance in Risk Reduction and National Coordination.***

Coordination on risk reduction issues through development of National Platforms (national mechanisms for disaster risk reduction) have been identified as a key development in ensuring governmental multi-sectoral engagement in the coordination. The aim of this session will be to learn from existing national platforms and view common challenges in developing this mechanism.

Given the relevance of the above-mentioned areas of focus in the context of the HFA implementation, the outcomes of the discussions held on 8th will be presented at the Launch of the Mid-Term Review of the HFA on 9th March. Similarly these reflections will be nurturing the exchanges and discussions within the third session of the Global Platform, held from 9th – 13th of May 2011.