

# Selected UN Mechanisms of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction



**ISDR system:** The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA), endorsed by 168 countries in 2005, serves as the overall framework for implementing disaster risk reduction world-wide. The ISDR system supports nations and communities to implement the Hyogo Framework. ISDR is a system of partnerships including 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 ISDR system's basic structure includes a Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, a Management Oversight Board, an Inter-Agency Group that developed an ISDR System Joint Work-Programme, thematic and regional platforms and the UN/ISDR secretariat.

**UN/ISDR secretariat:** The UN/ISDR secretariat, launched in 2000 (A/RES/54/219) serves as the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among the disaster-reduction activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations and activities in socio-economic and humanitarian fields (A/RES/56/195). The secretariat services the ISDR system and administrates the UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction. Core functions of the secretariat include: follow-up on the implementation of HFA and report on progress, facilitate policy guidelines for the priority areas, including by linking disaster risk reduction to the climate change negotiations, conduct awareness campaigns and high-level policy dialogues, provide information services and tools, and support national platforms and coordination efforts in these areas, through its regional programmes. The World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2008–09 is 'Hospitals Safe from Disaster: *Reduce Risk, Protect Health Facilities, Save Lives*'. (See more: [www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org); [www.eird.org](http://www.eird.org); [www.preventionweb.net](http://www.preventionweb.net))

**UNDP:** UNDP is responsible for operational activities for natural disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness since 1998 (A/RES/52/12B). Through its Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) serves as the lead for the Cluster Working Group on Early Recovery (CWGER) (Inter-Agency Standing Committee mandate, 2006). The CWGER coordinates programmes to restore services, livelihood opportunities and governance capacity following major disasters. UNDP works directly with more than 50 high-risk countries to formulate and implement disaster reduction and recovery policy and practice through its core development work. UNDP represents the UN Development Group on the Management Oversight Board of the ISDR secretariat and serves as the lead or participates in several ISDR thematic programs and platforms. Areas of thematic engagement at the country level include institutional and legislative systems, community-based disaster risk management, support to national governments to establish risk reduction as a national priority and to establish or strengthen basic institutional structures for disaster preparedness, pre-disaster recovery



preparedness, recovery (assessment, sectoral plans), mainstreaming, risk identification, capacity development, urban risks and, increasingly, climate risk management. (See more: [www.undp.org/bcpr](http://www.undp.org/bcpr))

**OCHA:** In December 1991, the General Assembly adopted Resolution 46/182, designed to strengthen the United Nation's response to both complex emergencies and natural disasters. The resolution created the high level position of Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), combining into a single UN focal point the functions carried out by representatives of the Secretary-General for major and complex emergencies, as well as the UN's natural disaster functions carried out by the UN Disaster Relief Coordinator, UNDRRO. As part of the Secretary-General's programme of reform in 1998, this function was reorganized into the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OCHA. OCHA's mandate includes the coordination of humanitarian response, policy development and humanitarian advocacy. OCHA has taken a lead role in supporting Government's contingency planning and preparedness over the past years, in line with HFA Priority 5. (see: [ochaonline.un.org](http://ochaonline.un.org); [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int))

**Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI).** Created in 2007 as the successor to the UN Disaster Management Training Programme (UN DMTP). CADRI is an initiative of UNDP/BCPR, OCHA, and the ISDR secretariat, serving as a vehicle through which the three organizations can maximize their ability to deliver as "one" for disaster risk reduction, focusing on capacity development. CADRI works with the UN system and governments at the country level, and supports the broader ISDR system to make capacity development a cross-cutting element for disaster risk reduction. Services include: training and facilitation, materials development and dissemination, knowledge exchange and networking, capacity development advisory services. (See. [www.unisdr.org/cadri](http://www.unisdr.org/cadri))

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