



United Nations
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

www.unisdr.org

**Workshop on National Platforms – IDRC 2008 –
Davos – 24 August 2008**

Lars Bernd, Programme Officer National Platforms,
UN/ISDR secretariat Geneva, bernd@un.org

Outline

- 1) National Platform definition, rationale, linkages to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and the ISDR system
- 2) Where do we stand?: Disaster and disaster risk trends
- 3) Where do we stand on NPs?: National Platforms worldwide
- 4) UN/ISDR secretariat support to National Platforms, incl. Toolkit
- 5) PreventionWeb - the web portal for DRR and potential NP use

National Platforms – A definition

- A nationally owned and led forum or committee of multi-stakeholders
- Serves as an **advocate for DRR** at different levels
- Provides **coordination, analysis and advice** on areas of priority requiring concerted action through a coordinated and participatory process.
- A **commitment** to work on prevention, preparedness and mitigation instead of merely focusing on disaster management and recovery

*As such it is mentioned in the **Hyogo Framework for Action's** Priority of Action 1 – adopted by 168 States*

*Previously referred to in **UN Economic and Social Council Resolution 1999/63** and 2005 **UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/59/231***

National Platforms – A definition (cont'd)

- Should be **the coordination mechanism for mainstreaming DRR** into development policies, planning and programmes in line with the implementation of the **Hyogo Framework for Action**
- Should aim to **contribute to** the establishment and the development of a **comprehensive national DRR system, as appropriate** to each country and be its **custodian**.
- They are **not necessarily new institutions**, but should rather be **built on existing ones** to become a forum for exchange and decision-making for coordinated DRR as a **multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder tool**

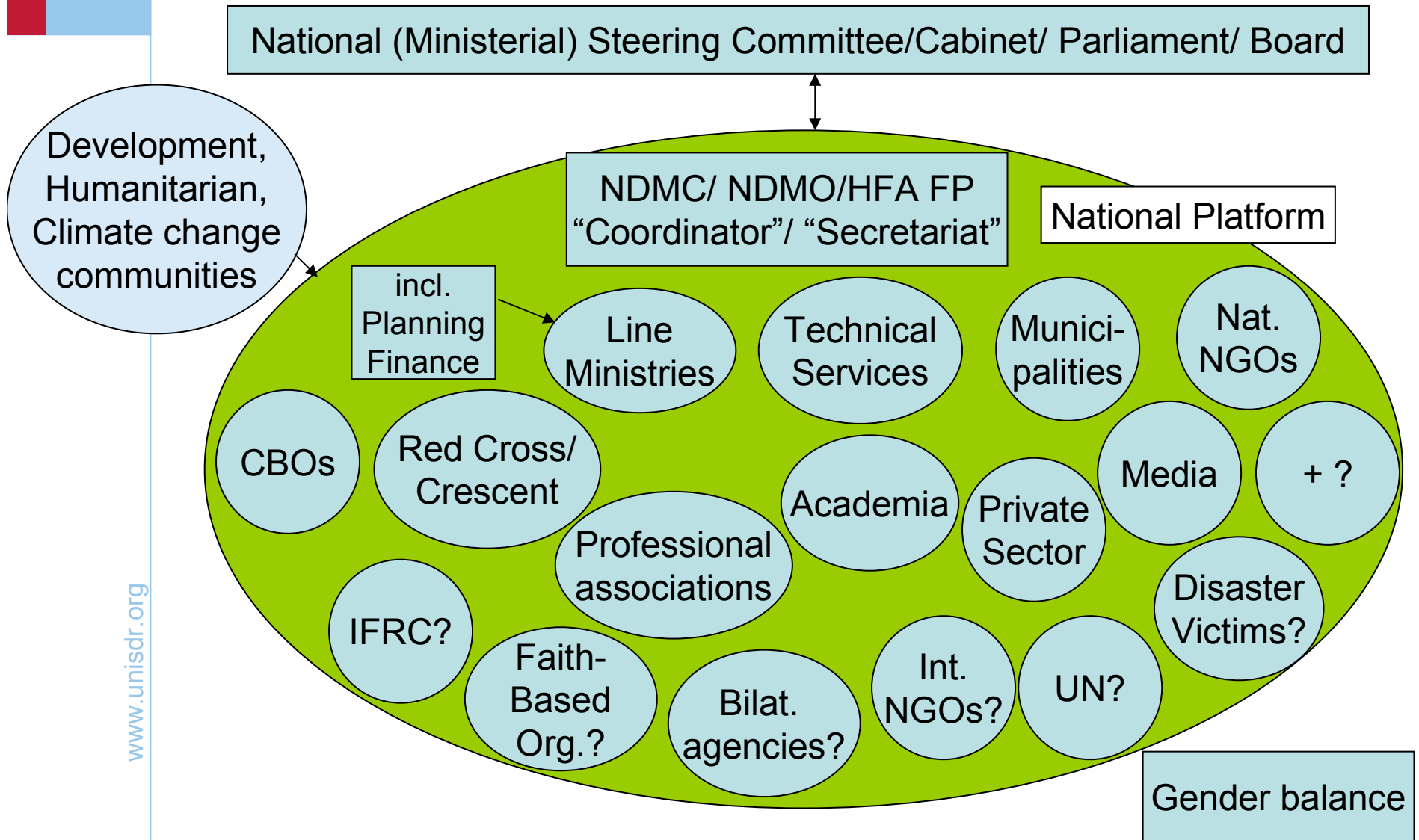
National Platforms – A definition (cont'd)

National Platforms are NOT:

- The HFA Focal Point institution
- The National Disaster Management Institution
- A National Steering Committee composed of Government Ministries
- The Civil Protection Service

...**but it may well be** an existing national partnership forum of different stakeholders on DRR, that keeps its name and just becomes officially declared as National Platform for DRR.

What are « National Platforms »?



National Platform core functions

- Be a **catalyst** for national consultations and consensus building
- **Increase national leadership and commitment** to the sustainability of disaster risk reduction and implementation of Hyogo Framework
- **Enhance collaboration and coordination** amongst national stakeholders
- **Manage the progress** towards achievement of DRR objectives rather than producing a « plan », **monitor & evaluate** and **report**
- **Increase levels of knowledge and skills** on risk reduction
- **Increase national commitment to help** the most vulnerable and at risk population
- **Serves as national focal point** within the ISDR system and strengthens links with the ISDR secretariat

Rationale: Why « National Platforms »?

“All spheres of government, all sectors of society and every professional discipline has a responsibility to consider how it can contribute to reducing risk within its own sphere of responsibility...

Every citizen can contribute to disaster risk reduction by thinking safety and acting safely.”

From the introduction to the [South African Disaster Management Act](#) (2002) as presented by the City of [Cape Town Disaster Risk Management Centre](#)... for use by councilors and officials with [Disaster Risk Management](#) responsibilities

Rationale: Why «National Platforms»? (cont'd)

Disaster Risks – Some areas of relevance leading to stakeholders

Professional, academic, applied interests

- Public health, Epidemiology
- Food and Livelihoods, production
- Geography (human habitats)
- Natural resources, Environmental management
- Climate change
- Physical sciences (natural hazards)
- Social sciences, Sociology, Anthropology
- Risk (and vulnerability) assessment
- Engineering, Infrastructure, Physical facilities
- Planning (“land use”) professions
- Public administration
- Education
- Economics

Rationale: Why «National Platforms»?

– A tool for more efficient and effective action to reduce risks

Efficiency and effectiveness – coordination, all under one umbrella, “entry point”, minimise parallel structures and duplication

Resource Mobilisation – coordinated way of accessing existing resources available for Risk Reduction, avoid competition

Sustainability of DRR interventions – put action on a more long-term footing, legal basis, structures, entry point, ensure continued funding

ISDR system levels of action (“platforms”) Define priorities: Strategic information, guidance and assessments of progress

National implementation

National frameworks, multi-stakeholders, and multi disciplinary **National Platforms for DRR**
Support from UN country team and/or WB – when appropriate

Regional

Based on existing regional and sub-regional strategies and mechanisms
e.g. Africa: African Union with RECs – African Strategy for DRR

Thematic

Building on existing networks, clusters, programmes and other mechanisms
Africa: Drought network; Floods (Climate change); Environment (AMCEN)

Global Platform for DRR

Biennial sessions
Global Assessment Report

ISDR programme

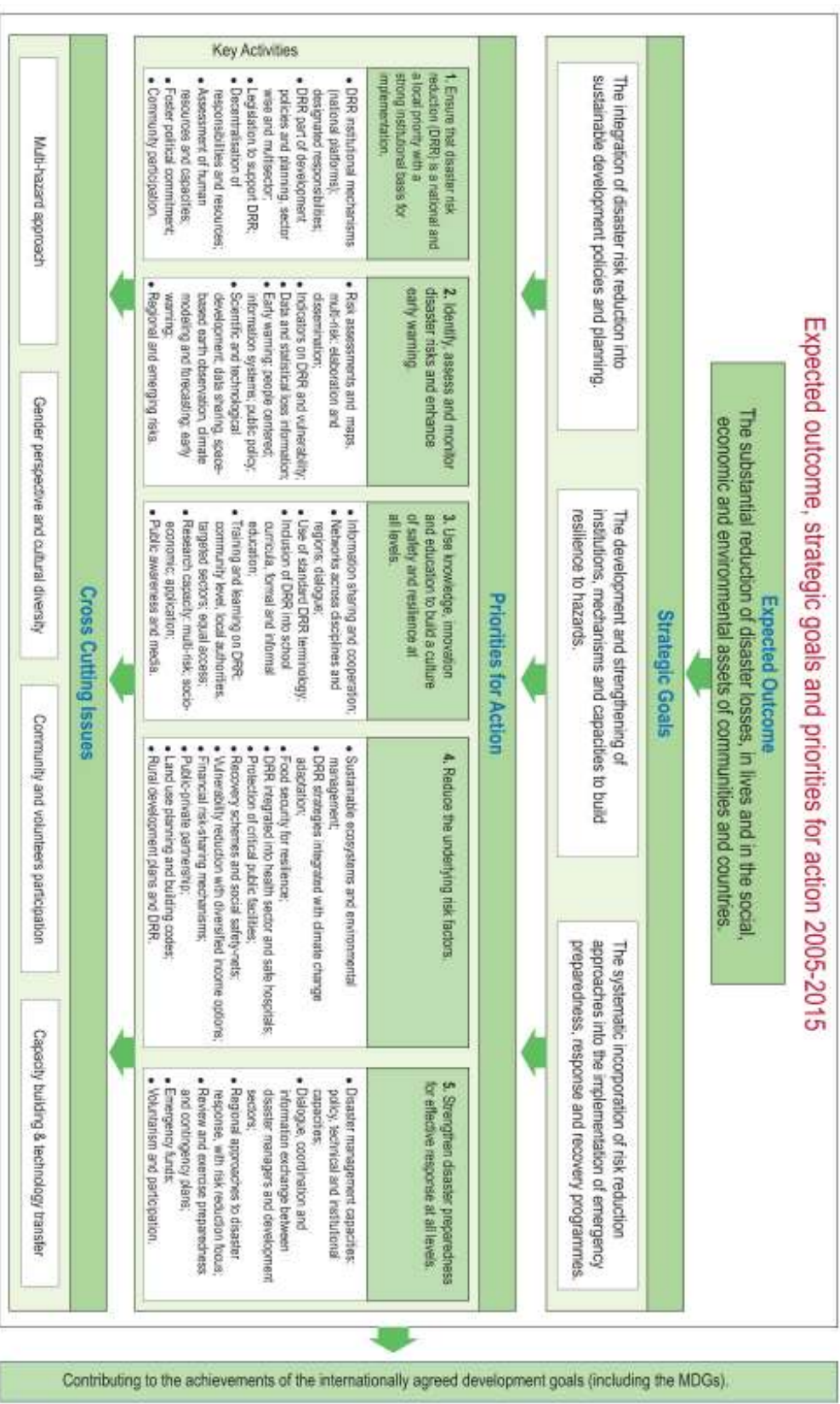
coordinated international and regional
efforts to support national and

local capacities



SUMMARY of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters

Expected outcome, strategic goals and priorities for action 2005-2015



DRR= disaster risk reduction

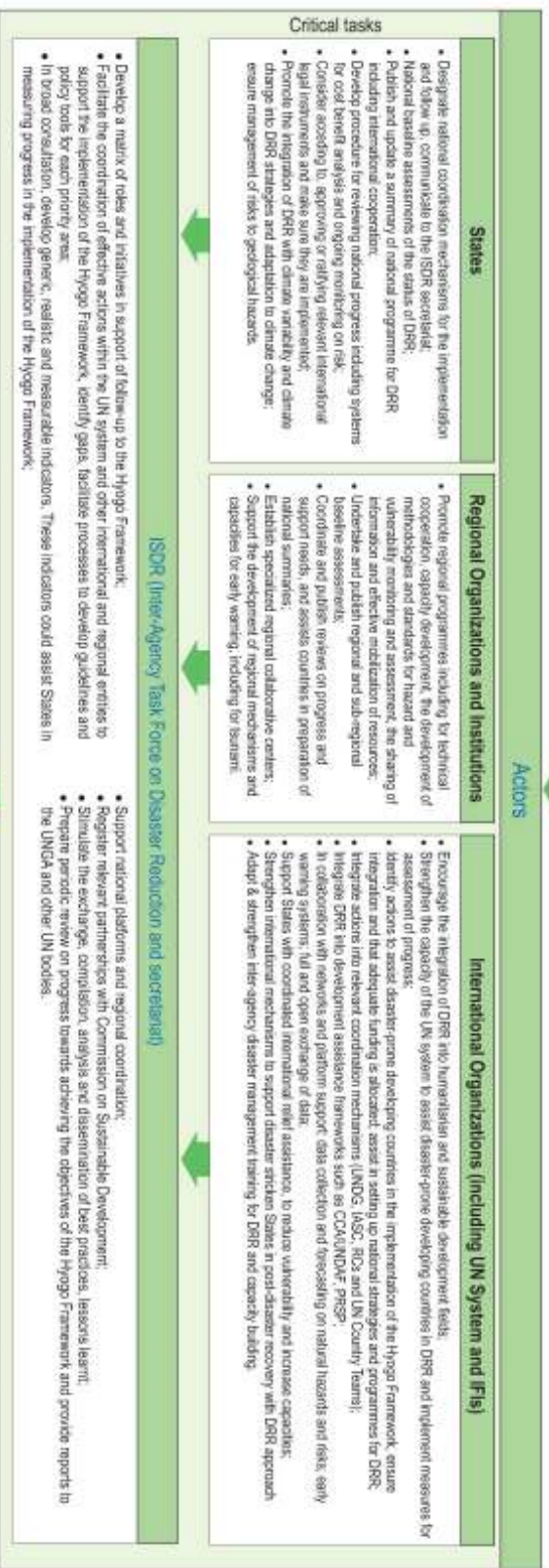
www.unisdr.org



Implementation and Follow-Up
 In order to achieve the strategic goals and set upon the priorities for action, the Framework identifies the following tasks for implementation and follow-up by States, regional and international organizations in collaboration with civil society and other stakeholders. The ISDR partners, in particular the Inter-agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction (IA-TFDR)* and secretariat, are requested to assist in implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action.

General Considerations

Implementation by different stakeholders, multi-sectoral approach, participation of civil society (NGOs, CSOs, volunteers), scientific community & private sector is vital.	States primarily responsible, an enabling international environment is vital, incl. strengthened regional capacities.	Built multi-stakeholder partnerships.	Particular attention to: - Small island developing States; Mauritius Strategy; - Less developed countries; - Africa.	States, national and international organizations to foster coordination among themselves and a strengthened international Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR).	Follow-up integrated with other major conferences in fields relevant to DRR, reviews as appropriate.
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Resource Mobilization: States, Regional and International Organizations

- Mobilize resources and capabilities of relevant national, regional and international bodies, including the UN system.
- Provide and support the implementation of the HFA in disaster prone developing countries, including through financial and technical assistance, addressing debt sustainability, technology transfer, public-private partnership and North-South and South-South cooperation.
- Mainstream DRR measures into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes.
- Provide adequate voluntary financial contribution to the UN Trust Fund for DR to support follow-up activities to Hyogo Framework, review usage and feasibility for the expansion of this fund.
- Develop partnership to mobilize schemes that spread risks, reduce insurance premiums, expand insurance coverage and increase financing for post-disaster reconstruction, including through public and private partnerships. Promote an environment that encourages a culture of insurance in developing countries.

Source: Outcome of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, 18-22 January 2005 *The IA-TFDR was replaced in 2007 by the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction www.unisdr.org

Trends: Statistics included in the latest UN Secretary-General report on the ISDR (2008)

July 2007-June 2008

- 364 disasters caused by natural hazards, with some signs of increased frequency and amplitude
 - 212 million people affected
 - 240,000 killed (13 times higher than previous reporting period)
 - Economic cost doubled compared to 2006/2007
 - Cyclone Nargis Myanmar: 140,000 people dead or missing
 - Sichuan earthquake China: over 87,000 dead
- > Need for effective people-centered early warning systems and EQ resistant construction

•2000-2007: Frequency of hydro-meteorological hazards increased by 8.4%/a on average, average annual cost exceeded US\$ 80 billion

However also encouraging examples:

- Bangladesh preparedness during Cyclone Sidr: 3,400 people died compared to 300,000 during similar cyclone in 1970 and 138,000 in 1991
- Other examples: Iran during cyclone Gonu, Madagascar during cyclone Ivan and five consecutive others in 2007

Trends - Statistics included in the latest UN Secretary-General report on the ISDR (2008) (2)

Environmental degradation:

- Since 1980 20% of world's mangroves lost increasing vulnerability
- 70% of 5.2 billion hectares of dry lands used for agriculture already degraded and threatened by desertification
- Sub-Saharan Africa: agriculture production declining by almost 1% per year

• Urbanization progressing: 3.3 billion people living in urban areas, by 2030 5 billion (in particular Africa and Asia)

• Risks of increased vulnerability - due to high population density, insufficient livelihoods, lack of access to basic services, social vulnerability - putting people at higher disaster risk

-> Need for urgent scaling up of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework

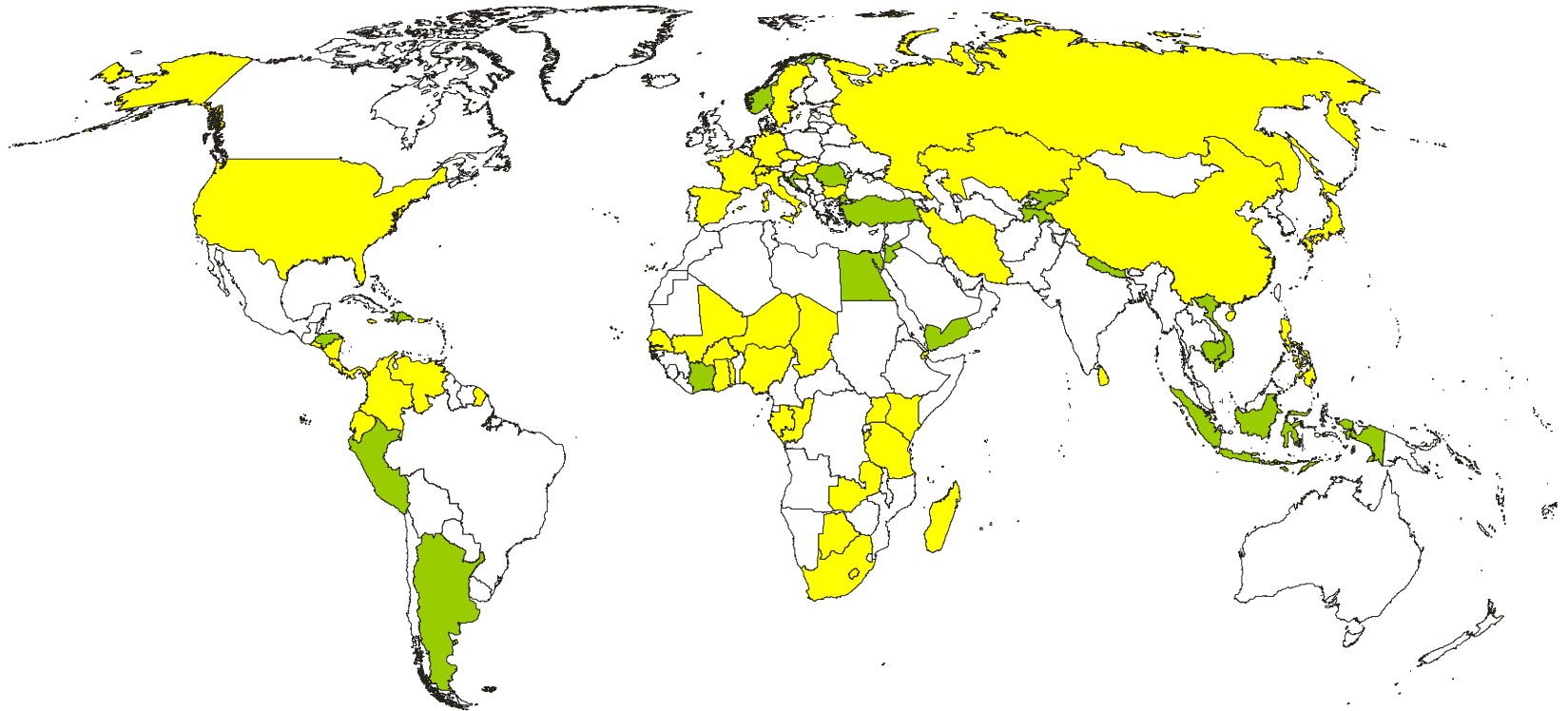
-> Need for further inclusion of DRR strategies and the HFA in national policies and programmes in the context of the FCC Nairobi work programme

Trends: Findings and recommendations of the latest UN Secretary-General report on the ISDR (2008)

- “In order to achieve more effective implementation of the Hyogo Framework, it is critical that Member States **strengthen their cooperation through the existing Strategy system mechanisms, including national and regional platforms** and the second session of the Global Platform (Geneva, 15-19 June 2009). **Building on the good experiences of existing national platforms**, Member States are strongly urged to develop and strengthen such national coordination mechanisms for disaster risk reduction.
- (...) 147 countries have not yet established national platforms, and 66 lack official Hyogo Framework for Action focal points.
- Despite the increased commitment by Governments and other stakeholders, governments are still not on track to achieve the goals set in the Hyogo Framework. A lack of awareness, commitment and resources still remain the main obstacles.

Some findings and recommendations of the latest UN Secretary-General report on the ISDR (2008)

- “... ensure strong coherence and **synergy between climate change and disaster risk reduction agendas**.... This could include **participation in multi-stakeholder platforms for disaster risk reduction** .. By all concerned entities, including for ...climate change...”
- “Member States are encouraged to...setting targets for public spending on multi-year disaster risk reduction programmes.... **The Secretary-General encourages Governments, donors and funding institutions to increase their investment in DRR.**”



Countries with National Platforms for DRR
Countries with plans to establish NPs

1940's...1960s	...1970s...	...1980s...	1990...	2000...	2008 ...
			IDNDR	ISDR	
EMERGENCY RESPONSE	PREPAREDNESS	DISASTER MANAGEMENT	PREVENTION, RISK MANAGEMENT...	...DISASTER RISK REDUCTION ...CLIMATE CHANGE	
Civil Defense / Civil Protection Humanitarian Concerns Preparedness & Response Ability Police, Fire, Civil Authorities Red Cross / Red Crescent Services Public Responders & Community Aid Etc.	NGOs - volunteers - local capabilities - community action - commercial opportunities – public-private partnerships – public media services - academic endeavor - hazards research - sociology of disaster - economics of disaster - information technology - linked databases - global communication systems - GIS systems - science and technology - hazard modeling - environmental issues - risk assessments - natural resources management - urban infrastructure - regional & local planning - integrated national planning		<i>Indian Ocean Tsunami, Hurricane Katrina & Pakistan Earthquake</i> <i>Pandemic - Avian flu</i> CLIMATE CHANGE - IPCC <i>Regional patterns changing: heat waves, tornados in Europe, drought and flooding in Africa</i> <i>Cyclone Nargis, Myanmar, Wenchuan Earthquake, China</i>		
	----->				
	national weather services - “public weather” - ENSO cycle planning - flood plain management - “sustainable development” - governance & security issues - increasing insurance losses - “catastrophe bonds” - exposure of complex global systems - environmental engineering - professional & scientific organizations - globalization of economy - military & commercial disaster service providers - international initiatives - transnational & political concerns - regional organizations - municipal authorities – institutional processes – UNAIDS		National Platforms for DRR & Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (2006) Global Platform for DRR (2007) Regional Platforms (2008/09)		

ISDR secretariat support towards National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

- Help establishing, motivating (workshop and multi-stakeholder dialogue, led by line-Ministry – implemented in support to/with UN RC)
- Global and regional thematic meetings and training with/ among National Platforms
- Development of guidance documents, tools and contribution to ISDR partner work with NPs/ HFA FPs (incl. CCA/UNDAF guidelines, joint publications, etc.)
- Awareness raising campaigns
- Support to sharing of NP experiences (« twinning » + good practices, « ISDR-Highlights » and other magazines)
- Capacity assessments (with CADRI, UNDP....)
- Ministerial meetings in the regions
- Expertise facilitation
- HFA monitor (progress reporting and information sharing)

Assistance:

- ✓ Strengthening regional organisations role to support
- ✓ WB GFDRR Track II programmes
- ✓ UNDP supporting programmes

UN/ISDR « Toolkit for National Platforms »

A manual to help implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action through National Platforms

- Short thematic write-ups providing tips and hints on how to implement the HFA's key activities + helpful annexes with samples, templates, checklists, guidelines, workshop outlines, web links, etc.

= Potentially useful documents and tips for addressing particular aspects of NPs' work drawn from NPs, NDMCs/ focal point institutions, publications, websites, UN and other partner resources.

- (Excerpts of) existing resources rather than writing of new ones
- It refers to main actions, which are considered critical for every National Platform to play its expected role as outlined in the related "Guidelines for National Platforms for DRR".
- Aligned with the Hyogo Framework for Action.

This cannot see the day without the contribution of all stakeholders in particular NPs, HFA FPs institutions, UNDP, etc...



HYOGO FRAMEWORK

COUNTRIES & REGIONS

THEMES & ISSUES

HAZARDS

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES

Fact Sheets

What is PreventionWeb?

Events Calendar

Upcoming

Focusing on climate change and adaptation in the Himalayas: celebrating 25 years of ICMOD for mountians and people
24 Mar - 11 Dec 2008

World water week
17-23 Aug 2008

UNFCCC Accra climate change talks 2008
21-27 Aug 2008

View all

Popular Searches

call for good practices
Living with risk
Cairo conference
grants
HFA Monitor

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Ireland: extreme weather here to stay, warns climatologist

18 August 2008
"One hopes this is a lesson for the design standards which will come out from the Department of the Environment hopefully later this year," said Prof John Sweeney of the National University of Ireland...



WHO calls for member states to reinforce disaster safe hospitals

18 August 2008
World Health Organization's Regional Office for the Western Pacific says structural safety of hospitals needs to be ensured to allow continuous services in times of disaster...

East Asian cities urged to get ready for climate change

12 August 2008
"Cities need to understand that there are short-term, mid-term and longer-term actions that can and are being taken to build their resilience," said Fatima Shah of the World Bank's urban development sector unit....

People in DRR (Audio)

Ronald Jackson, Director of ODPDM Jamaica
7 Jul 2008



On the challenges of moving from a culture of response to a culture of prevention

View all

Get involved



Join one of many thematic networks

See all DRR networks

From Our Partners

- External Links
- Integrated Risk Governance Project
- Prevention Consortium
- Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)

Alerts on Disasters

Economics of DRR

Cost-effective measures to build resilience

Explore the topic and contribute to the discussion

DRR Publications

Climate change futures: health, ecological and economic dimensions 2005
Guidelines for earthquake resistant construction of non-engineered rural and suburban masonry houses in cement sand mortar in earthquake affected areas (draft)

Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters

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- Hyogo Framework for Action
- HFA Monitoring & Review
- Global Assessment Report
- Global Platform
- National Platforms
- Key Documents

Colombia National Platform

Description

Our institution was created in the year of 1989, with decree 919 of 10. of May, like answer to the urgent necessity that tapeworm the National government to confront by means of one organización suitable, the innumerable social and economic problems generated by the different factors from public calamity and natural disasters that during the last ones decadas have undergone the society and the country in general.

Mission

To orient the management and to coordinate the organizations of the National System for the Prevention and Attention of Disasters, that allow to the prevention and mitigation of the risks and the organization of the preparations for the attention of emergencies, the rehabilitation and reconstruction in case of disaster; incorporating the concept of prevention in the planning, education and culture of the country, that leads to the diminution of the vulnerability and the catastrophic effects of the natural and antrópicos disasters.

Vision

The Direction of Prevention and Attention of Disasters, will be the main state tool of management and coordination within the National System for the Prevention and Attention of Disasters, to obtain that the Colombian society enjoyment of a greater security and well-being by means of the reduction of the disasters generated by the occurrence of natural events and antrópicas actions, incorporating the concept of prevention and mitigation of risks in the development plans.

National Platform Focal Point

Sistema Nacional de Prevencion y Atencion de Desastres

Subscriptions: RSS Email

Tools

- Email This Page
- Submit a National platform description

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Home > Themes & Issues

Themes & Issues

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) work "concerns everyone, from villagers to heads of state, from bankers and lawyers to farmers and foresters, from meteorologists to media chiefs." (*Living with Risk: A Global Review of Disaster Reduction Initiatives 2004*, Geneva: UN/ISDR, 2004).

DRR-related themes and issues are wide and cross-cutting.

DRR Themes & Issues A-Z

Capacity Development

training and development, learning, institutional strengthening

Civil Society/NGOs

Climate Change

adaptation to climate change, sustainable development

Community-based DRR

local knowledge, local risk mapping

Complex Emergency

multiple hazard crisis, humanitarian crisis, conflict

Disaster Risk Management

Early Warning

risk knowledge, monitoring and warning service, risk communication, response capability, disaster preparedness, risk modelling

Economics of DRR

cost benefit analysis, disaster risk financing, financial effects of disasters, poverty and disaster risk, risk sharing, socio-economic impacts of disasters

Education

learning safe schools

Subscriptions: RSS Email

Terminology

Basic definitions on DRR to promote a common understanding of the subject

[Look for definitions](#)

Networks & Communities

Find or start a DRR community of practice and contribute to the online dialogue

[Join a discussion group](#)

DRR Fact Sheets

- On Health
- On Education
- On Gender

[View all](#)

Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters

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- Networks & Communities**
- Training & Events
- Jobs
- Terminology
- Documents & Publications
- News & Announcements
- Multimedia

Networks & Communities

Professional communities of practice and discussion groups related to disaster risk reduction (DRR).

PUBLIC Networks & Communities (31)

By Theme

- Capacity Development (5)
- Civil Society/NGOs (2)
- Climate Change (5)
- Community-based DRR (2)
- Disaster Risk Management (1)
- Education (4)
- Gender (1)
- Health (1)
- Information Management (2)
- Private-public Partnerships (1)
- Risk Identification (1)
- Space Technology (1)

Submit a network or community

By Hazard

- Earthquake (3)
- Flood (1)
- Land Slide (1)

Submit a network or community

Do you want to create a network / community? PreventionWeb can provide free tools and advice. Contact us for details. Create a network / community

Subscriptions: RSS Email

PRIVATE Networks & Communities (15)

- ISDR System Joint Work Programming
- Economics of DRR
- GAR peer scientific review on flood modelling
- GAR peer scientific review on landslide modelling

Thank you

United Nations, secretariat of the
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
International Environment House II
7-9 Chemin de Balexert, CH 1219 Chatelaine
Geneva 10, Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 917 8908/8907
Fax: +41 22 917 8964
isdr@un.org