



United Nations  
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

## Overview of National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

[www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org)

**Third Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk  
Reduction – Special Session 2: Disaster Risk Reduction is  
everyone’s business: Establishing and improving multi-  
stakeholder national coordinating mechanisms for DRR  
– Kuala Lumpur – 02 December 2008**

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## National Platforms – A definition

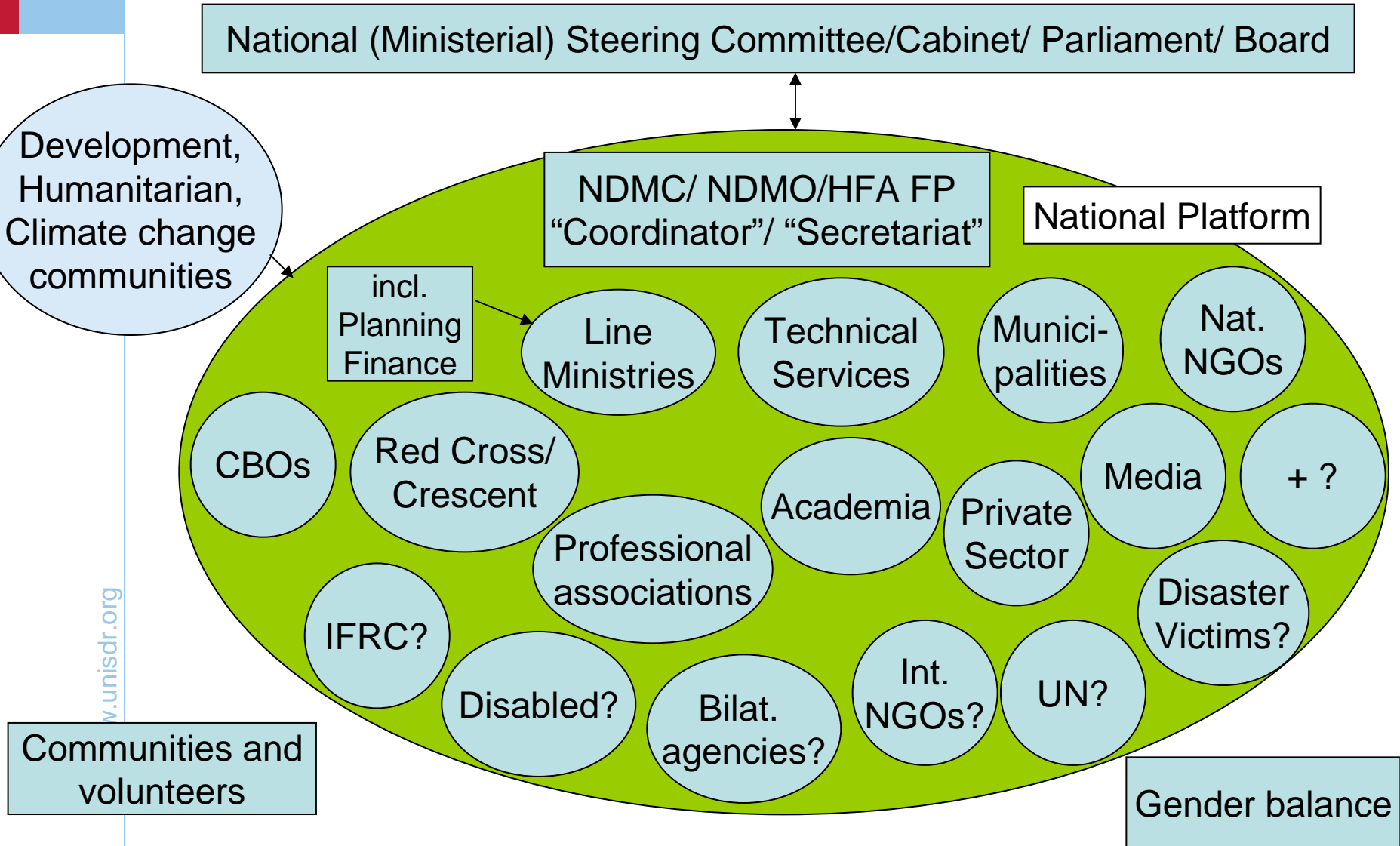
A nationally owned and led forum or committee of multi-stakeholders for Disaster risk reduction

*As such National Platforms are mentioned in the **Hyogo Framework for Action's** Priority of Action 1 - Previously referred to in **UN Economic and Social Council Resolution 1999/63** and **2005 UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/59/231***

*“The expression “**national platform**” is a generic term used for **national mechanisms for coordination and policy guidance** on disaster risk reduction that need to be **multi-sectoral and interdisciplinary in nature**, with **public, private and civil society participation involving all concerned entities** within a country. National platforms represent the national mechanism for the **International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.**” (HFA, §16, 10)*

- Ideally build on existing national coordinating mechanisms
- A multi-sectoral-, multi-stakeholder-, multi-level tool

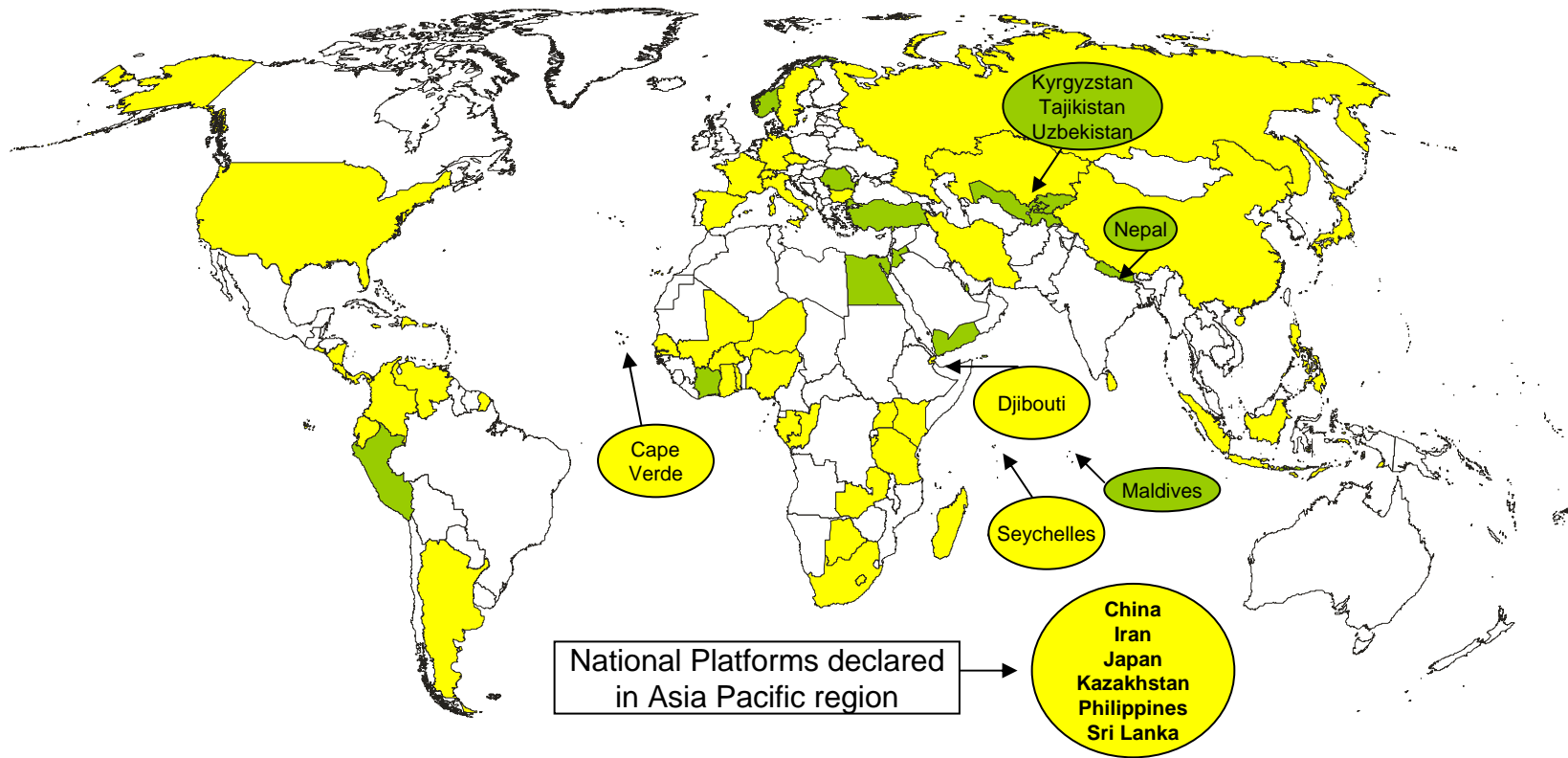
# Composition of National Platforms



## National Platform core functions

- Serve as an **advocate for DRR** at different levels
- **Increase national leadership and commitment to help** the most vulnerable and at risk populations
- **Increase levels of knowledge and skills** on risk reduction
  
- Be a **catalyst** for national consultations and consensus building
- Provides **coordination, analysis and advice** on areas of priority requiring concerted action through a coordinated and participatory process among national stakeholders (e.g. to mainstreaming DRR into development policies, planning and programmes)
  
- **Manage the progress** towards achievement of DRR objectives rather than producing a « plan »,
- **Monitors, evaluates and reports**
  
- Through the HFA Focal point, **serves as national focal point** within the ISDR system and strengthens links with the UNISDR secretariat

**Increase national leadership and commitment** to the sustainability of disaster risk reduction and the implementation of the Hyogo Framework



**Countries with National Platforms for DRR**  
**Countries with plans to establish NP**

## Achievements by National Platforms (1)

- Achieving **higher political commitment and engagement** of politicians for DRR (Costa Rica, Indonesia, Nigeria, Philippines, ...),
- **Integrating DRR into national policy and legislation and development plans** (China, Colombia, Djibouti, Kenya, Senegal, Uganda...),
- **Mainstreaming DRR in line Ministries** and rolling out of capacity-development programmes and support to development of **sectoral plans including DRR** (Nigeria)
- **Setting up sub-national DRM committees and promoting community participation in DRR** through awareness-raising and capacity-building activities (China, Japan, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Switzerland, ...),
- Devising a system of **decentralized DRM based on the subsidiarity principle** involving multi-stakeholders at local, provincial and national level (Colombia),
- Engaging the **media, private sector and/or insurance sector** for DRR (Germany, Japan, Nigeria, Switzerland, ...)

## Achievements by National Platforms (2)

- Multi-stakeholder process to develop **Road Map as Action Plan for DRR** and definition of **terms of references for National Platform** (Sri Lanka)
- Joint development of a **Contingency Plan for cyclone preparedness following the cluster approach**, which substantially reduced number of otherwise expected casualties (Madagascar)
- **Support to ISDR processes and initiatives** at national, regional and international level through organization of events and conferences, support to the setting up of National Platforms in the region and globally, **setting up of a network of National Platforms** in Europe, **contribution to European Commission green papers** related to Disaster risk aspects defining the European Union approach both in Europe and in its development cooperation (Germany, France, Switzerland)
- Linking up with **climate change adaptation** focal points, contribute to UNFCCC processes, involvement in national adaptation policies and **climate risk management and adaptation pilot projects** (Germany, Sweden, Argentina, Ecuador)

## UNISDR secretariat support to National Platforms

- Promote and help establishing NPs and multi-stakeholder dialogue meetings (led by line-Ministry – implemented in support to/with UN RC)
- Organise/ contribute to global and regional thematic meetings and training with/ among National Platforms (e.g. Climate change and DRR workshops in Panama and in France, Mainstreaming workshop in Africa)
- Develop guidance documents, tools and contribution to ISDR partner work with NPs/ HFA FPs (incl. CCA/UNDAF guidelines, joint publications, etc.)
- Support sharing of NP experiences (« twinning » + good practices, « ISDR-Highlights » and other magazines)
- Jointly run awareness raising campaigns
- Undertake capacity assessments (with CADRI, UNDP)
- Support ministerial meetings in the regions
- Facilitate access to expertise – [www.preventionweb.net](http://www.preventionweb.net)
- HFA monitor (progress reporting and information sharing)





**Fact Sheets**

- ▶ [Climate change and disaster risk reduction](#)
- ▶ [What is PreventionWeb?](#)
- ▶ [What is the Hyogo Framework for Action?](#)

**Events Calendar**

Upcoming

- ▶ [Pacific Coast fire conference: changing fire regimes, goals and ecosystems](#)  
01-04 Dec 2008
- ▶ [United Nations climate change conference in Poznan \(COP 14\)](#)  
01-12 Dec 2008
- ▶ [Conference on housing, urban poverty and environment](#)  
02-04 Dec 2008

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- ▶ [Justin Sharpe, UK school teacher and disaster risk reduction advocate](#)



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## 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.

### 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 »](#)

#### Capacity Development

training and development, learning, institutional strengthening

#### Civil Society/NGOs

civic action, collective community action, community-based organization (CBO) action, grassroots action, integrative DRR, non-governmental organization (NGO) action

#### Climate Change

adaptation to climate change, sustainable development

#### Community-based DRR

local knowledge, local risk mapping

#### Complex Emergency

multiple hazard crisis, humanitarian crisis, conflict

#### Critical Infrastructure

communications systems, health facilities, 'lifelines', power and energy, emergency evacuation shelters, financial infrastructure, schools, transportation, waste disposal, water supplies

#### Disaster Risk Management

ISDR System

Hyogo Framework for Action

HFA Monitoring &amp; Review

Global Assessment Report

Global Platform

National Platforms

- National Platform List

- Key Events

- National Progress Reports

- Key Documents

Key Documents

## National Platforms

### National Platform List

Officially declared National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction by country.

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### Key Events for National Platforms

Including workshops and events aimed at establishing and strengthening National Platforms and national coordinating mechanisms.

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### National Progress Reports

National reports on the progress of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action by country and timeframe.

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### Key Documents for National Platforms

Including guidelines for implementing the Hyogo Framework, establishing and strengthening National Platforms and national coordinating mechanisms.

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### Global Platform 2009

The main forum for continued and concerted emphasis on disaster reduction, providing strategic guidance and coherence for implementing the Hyogo Framework, and for sharing experiences and expertise among all its stakeholders.


[View meeting information »](#)



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## Key Events

Total number of documents: 4

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Date	Title	Location
26-28 Nov 2008	Conference on natural disaster risk reduction in the context of the French presidency of the European Union: From past disasters to the climate change challenges in Europe Organization: AFPCN, MEEDDAT	France (Paris)
20-22 Oct 2008	Reunión consultiva regional de plataformas nacionales de reducción de riesgo de desastres y diálogo sobre adaptación al cambio climático	Panama (Panama City)
23-29 Aug 2008	Workshop on national platforms at the International Disaster and Risk Conference (IDRC) Davos 2008 Organization: PLANAT, SDC, DKKV, AFPCN, IDRC	Switzerland (Davos)
24-25 Apr 2008	Meeting of European national platforms and HFA focal points for disaster risk reduction Organization: COE, European Network for DRR, UNESCO, UNISDR	France (Paris)

### Please contribute. Submit training or events.

PreventionWeb welcomes submissions from the disaster risk reduction community. Please contribute.

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## Workshop on national platforms at the International Disaster and Risk Conference (IDRC) Davos 2008

**Type:** Meeting or Conference

**Date:** 23-29 Aug 2008

**Location:** Switzerland

**City:** Davos

**Venue:** Hotel Schatzalp and Davos Congress Centre

**Language:** English

### Main organizer

- [Association Française pour la Prévention des Catastrophes Naturelles \(AFPCN\)](#)
- [German Committee for Disaster Reduction \(DKKV\)](#)
- [Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation \(SDC\)](#)
- [Swiss National Platform for Natural Hazards \(PLANAT\)](#)

### Main host

- [International Disaster and Risk Conference \(IDRC\)](#)

### Description

The Swiss National Platform for Natural Disaster Reduction (PLANAT) and the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) together with their partners, the German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DKKV) and the Association Française pour la Prévention des Catastrophes Naturelles (AFPCN), organise as parallel Workshop on

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## 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 organizaci3n 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 mitigaci3n 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 antr3picos 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-

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# *Thank you*

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