



United Nations  
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

# National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

Global Highlights 2008 – Outlook 1<sup>st</sup> half 2009

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

**Meeting of European National Platforms and HFA Focal Points – Bonn – 19-20 February 2009**

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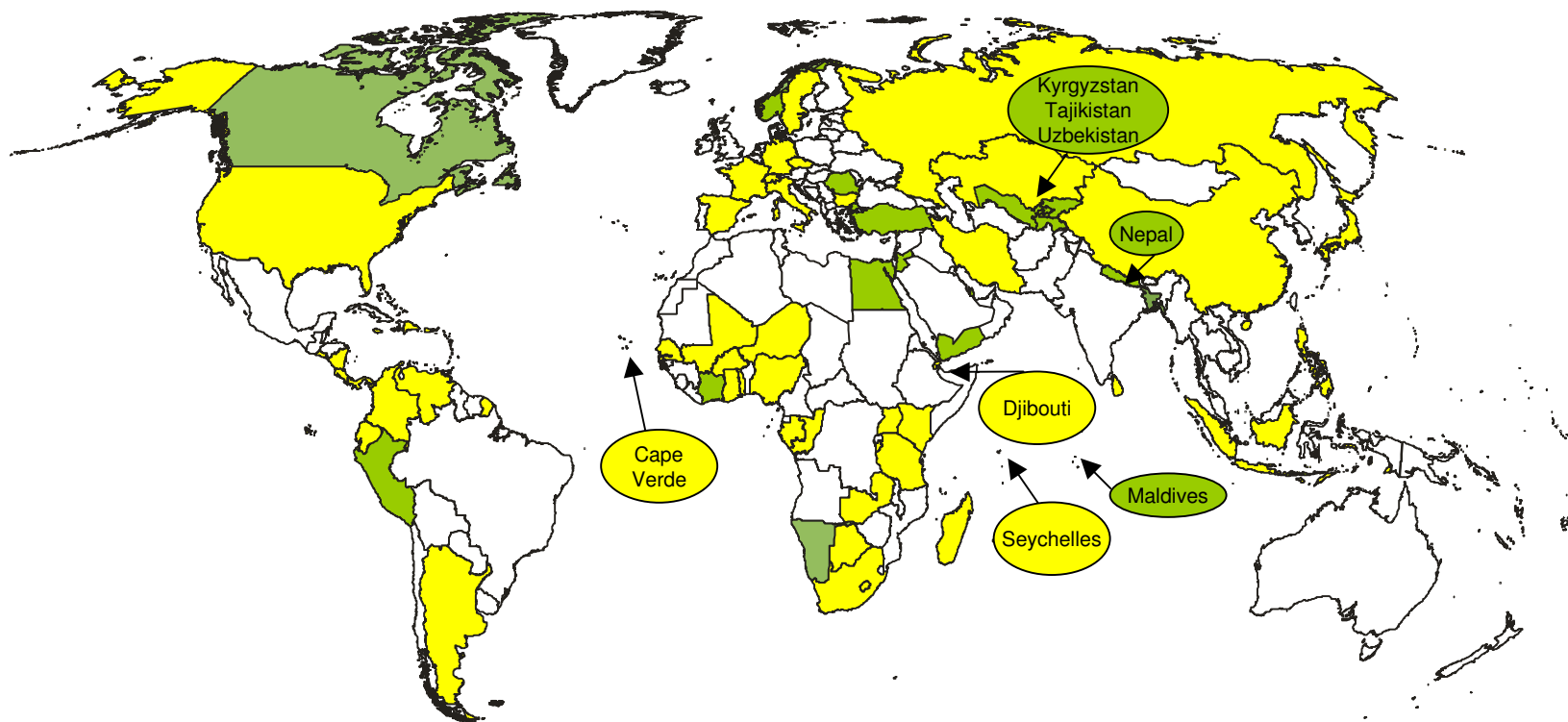
## National Platforms – Overview of developments in 2008

**Main focus** across regions has been on **strengthening National Platforms** for DRR

With the exception of the Americas **fewer new National Platforms** have been officially declared/ established.

New NPs declared in 2008:

- Asia/Pacific: **Sri Lanka** (January 2008)
- Central Asia : **Kazakhstan** (January 2008)
- Europe: **Italy** (January 2008)
- Africa : **Senegal** (March 2008 – launched in 2005 with UNISDR support, but never formalized)
- Americas: **Dominican Republic** (March 2008), **El Salvador**, **Jamaica** (July 2008), **Argentina** (October 2008)



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

## National Platforms – Overview of developments in 2008

Engagement of Northern National Platforms and bilateral cooperation in promoting NP concept and sharing lessons learned with other national coordinating mechanisms from developing countries

- **1) A European Network of National Platforms/ SDC funded IDRC Davos workshop** gathering representatives national coordinating mechanisms and National Platforms from Bangladesh, France, Germany, Jordan, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Switzerland, Tajikistan – experience sharing and development of action plans (August 2008)
- **2) German Foreign Ministry financed SWOTs in Senegal and Madagascar** (UNISDR project – January/ February 2008)

## National Platforms – Overview of developments in 2008

### UNISDR Secretariat support:

- Support to **launch and build capacities** of National Platform members in the Americas and Europe
- Advocacy events and **sharing of NPs experiences** at various regional and global meetings
- Support to **organise multi-stakeholder meetings** (Bahrain, Egypt, Central Asian countries, Bulgaria, Moldova, Indonesia, Kenya) and other country missions to engage UNCTs
- Placement of staff **on short-term basis** to support ISDR processes in India, Indonesia, Maldives, Sri Lanka
- **Regional Meeting of National Platforms** in Panama and Europe piloted exchange with Focal points for climate change adaptation
- **Training on HFA monitor** led to increase in submission of progress reports in all regions

## National Platforms – Overview of developments in 2008

### UNISDR Secretariat support:

- UNISDR/UNDP/WB/ProVention training workshop on Mainstreaming DRR and Risk Assessment (April 2008)
- Development of guidance material and promotion of information exchange, incl.:
  - Publication of good practices of Nps,
  - Setting up of National Platform sub-site on PreventionWeb with links to key NP events, NP documents, HFA monitor country reports, individual National Platform sites
  - Newsletters and “HFA pedia” website in the Americas
  - Development of concept paper for “Twinning of National Platforms” for Europe
  - On-going work on Toolkit for National Platforms

## National Platforms – Some conclusions of 2008

- Most National Platforms face **multiple challenges** to work effectively and fulfil what is expected from them
  - Still **need for advocacy** on importance of National Platforms and for training on the basics of DRR and HFA
  - But also **need for more guidance and training** on how to make NPs work on a **daily basis** – suggested Toolkit one approach, but more generally **enhance exchange, lessons learning and networking to overcome challenges**
  - Need for enhanced information exchange and **lessons learning among NPs and between NPs and other national coordinating mechanisms**
- Need to **engage key Ministries in National Platforms** and to include and **reach out to Climate Change Adaptation focal points** or risk of being side-lined overtime
- Need to further promote added value of an officially declared NP

## National Platforms – Some conclusions of 2008

- To build strong and sustainable National Platforms:

Need for much stronger engagement, technical support and funding by:

- **regional organisations,**
- **bilateral development agencies',**
- **IFIs, private sector** and **NGOs** to lobby and contribute to building National Platforms

Need to engage **more ISDR country programmes of support** (NPs as important component and target)

**Need for funding** – several NP related projects submitted, but not yet funded (Caribbean Platforms programme, Project for French-speaking and lusophone countries, Central Asia project)



## National Platforms – Outlook 1 half 2009

- **NP declarations „in the pipeline“** (Indonesia, Macedonia, Peru, Norway, Turkey, Georgia)
- **2<sup>nd</sup> session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction** (Geneva, 16-19 June 2009)
  - Monday, 15 June 2009 Global Meeting of National Platforms
  - Possibility for National Platforms and national delegations to advocate and show progress through NP-related **statements** in the plenary, during the **Informal Plenary**, or by organising a **special-event** over lunch time or through a stand at the **Marketplace**
- Regional strategy to build National Platforms in Asia under development, in Europe collaboration with EUROPA and other region entities.
- **Translation of guidance documents into French, Spanish, Portuguese** (proof-reading of Words into Action by French HFA FP)

# Thank you

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