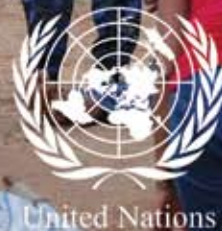




International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

# Annual Report 2007

The secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR)







International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

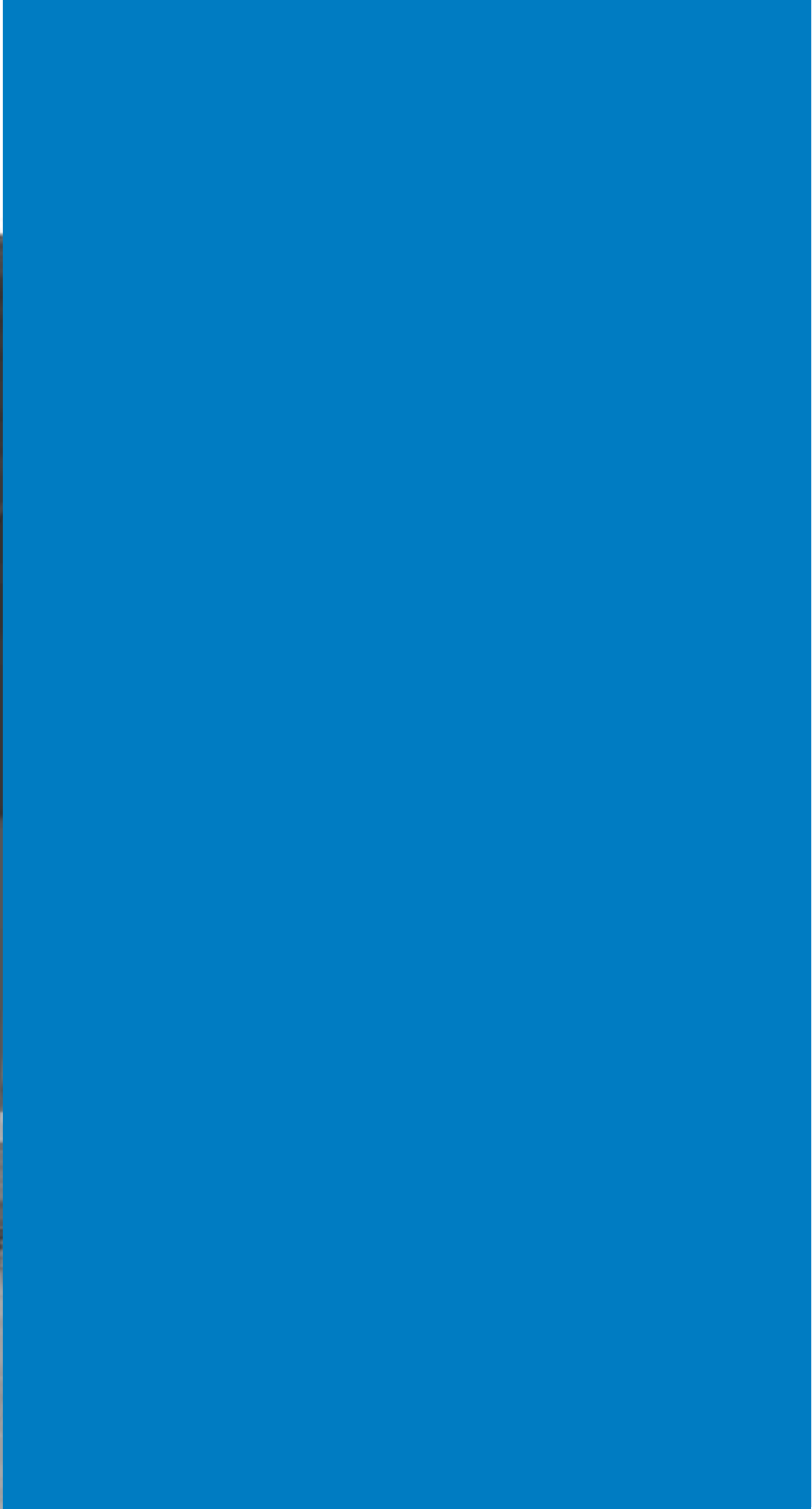
# Annual Report 2007

The secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR)

The mission of the UN/ISDR secretariat is to  
*“Catalyze, facilitate and mobilize the commitment and resources  
of national, regional and international stakeholders of the ISDR System  
to build the resilience of nations and communities to disasters  
through the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action”*



United Nations



# Executive Summary

The UN/ISDR secretariat operates today in a landscape that has evolved considerably since the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: *Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters* at the 2005 World Conference on Disaster Reduction.

The objectives of the secretariat, as reflected in the 2006-2007 Biennial Workplan and further elaborated in the new biennium 2008-2009, are: (1) to foster the commitments made by the 168 National Governments and over 100 international, regional and civil society organizations at the 2005 World Conference; and (2) to prepare and facilitate effective mechanisms and tools in support of the implementation of the HFA.

The secretariat's strategic deliverables are carried out through biennial planning and budgeting. The secretariat undertook a mid-term review of its planning in its annual staff retreat in December 2006. New opportunities emerging in 2006, in particular related to linkages between climate change and disaster risk reduction and the new partnership with the World Bank - the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, provided room for re-focus and additional deliverables in 2007.

The present Annual Report 2007 sets out the secretariat's major results and achievements against the agreed 2006-2007 Biennial Workplan outputs and outcomes. It also contains a trend analysis and provides context, as necessary, to explain changes in priorities or results.

## Overall Assessment

In 2007, the UN/ISDR secretariat continued to catalyze and support the implementation of the HFA. The secretariat addressed three key areas in support of the ISDR System: (1) coordination and resource mobilization; (2) advocacy and partnerships; and (3) strategic information and policy guidance.

Specific results identified and the means by which the secretariat had to achieve those results were based on the comparative advantages of the secretariat set against other resources of the ISDR System. The UN/ISDR secretariat registered major achievements in each of these areas of work, and major challenges were identified in the following areas: information and knowledge management; support for national efforts; and resource mobilization.

## Major Achievements

In Africa, UN/ISDR Africa provided direct support to key regional partners, and organized regional meetings with national focal points and at Ministerial level. Focus was on mainstreaming disaster risk reduction (DRR) into development planning and on slow-onset hazards like drought. Increased cooperation with the African Union and other sub-regional organizations has yielded results with significant potential, including collaboration with the UN-hub in South Africa (working with other UN partners).

In the Americas, institutional buy-in exists at regional and sub-regional levels for DRR, manifested through regional strategies. UN/ISDR Americas developed information tools in response to regional and national needs and to strengthen local-level capacity development, through an innovative capacity development alliance and a regional urban risk platform.

In Asia, ministerial and senior officials' regional and sub-regional policy forums are yielding good results, including through ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations), the ISDR Asia Partnership, and the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. With UN/ISDR Asia/Pacific support, progress reporting on HFA implementation by countries - through regional and sub-regional reporting - is gaining momentum, and a regional knowledge-sharing network on DRR is in place and operational.

In Europe, several specific products produced in South-Eastern Europe by UN/ISDR Europe helped to lay the foundations of specific programme initiatives being launched and enabled in close collaboration with the World Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), a funding mechanism established by the World Bank and the UN/ISDR secretariat in 2006. The secretariat's work leveraged financing, particularly from the European Commission. The secretariat's catalytic role in linking partners and providing a 'marketplace' for exchange among regional partners is bearing fruit. There have been several specific successes in catalyzing policy development on DRR by regional partners.

In West Asia and North Africa (WANA region), the UN/ISDR secretariat built regional alliances with key regional actors including the League of Arab States, the Arab Academy of Science and Technology, and the Economic Cooperation Organization Secretariat. Supported by UN/ISDR-WANA, these regional organizations are taking up the challenge of DRR. Collaboration with IFRC/Red Crescent focuses on community-based risk reduction in the region.

A major focus of the UN/ISDR secretariat's efforts in 2007 was to increase the commitment and practical action of Governments, intergovernmental organizations, especially at regional level, and among local authorities, parliamentarians and other stakeholder constituencies. Several networks were put in place, building on existing institutions and entities, particularly at regional level. A total of 120 HFA national focal points are now appointed (Maldives, Nepal, Thailand, Montenegro and the United Kingdom are new ones) and eight new national platforms for DRR were established during the last year (Burundi, Cap Verde, Lesotho, Sweden and South Africa, Togo). A two-year global awareness campaign on safer schools and education generated specific actions and tools and new commitments by the education sector in many countries. The global awareness campaign also helped build the DRR 'movement' with the involvement of millions of school students and teachers in various parts of the world.

The UN/ISDR secretariat organized the first session of the Global Platform for DRR (Geneva, 5-7 June 2007), the main global forum on DRR. The session brought together over 1,100 delegates, representing over 120 National Governments and 105 organizations (UN agencies, regional bodies, international

financial institutions, civil society, the private sector and the scientific and academic communities) to raise awareness on disaster risk, share experience, and guide the ISDR System with a view to supporting countries to implement the HFA.

Work by the secretariat also resulted in a widening and deepening of the ISDR System of partnerships for key networks and communities of knowledge. Gender mainstreaming in DRR was an area of focus, as was strengthening the engagement of the broader NGO community to promote grassroots and local-level involvement in DRR.

Major tools and guidance instruments for advocacy and policy support developed by the secretariat include: (1) a publication entitled "Words into Action: Implementing the HFA" which provides step-by-step advice and basic indicators for each HFA priority area; (2) the Global Review 2007 on progress in implementing the Hyogo Framework and risk update; and (3) the development of a progress monitoring system with performance and risk indicators as of 2008. Together with partners, the secretariat also collected and published a series of good practices and media and public awareness products on disaster risk reduction and education, community practice, and gender.

The UN/ISDR secretariat was the driving force behind the formulation of the ISDR System Joint Work Programme 2008–2009 which aims to support countries' implementation of the HFA through a set of targeted initiatives. The Work Programme was developed through the collaboration and engagement of the 12 initial members of the ISDR Inter-Agency Group (FAO, IFRC, ILO, OCHA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNEP, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, WMO and the World Bank.). It identifies a set of global and thematic joint results (including contributing partners and resource requirements) to be achieved through the participation of ISDR System partners.

In 2007, ISDR System regional coordination and guidance mechanisms were strengthened. This was made possible in large part through the secretariat's increased presence in the regions, which supports regional partnerships and DRR mainstreaming efforts and platforms, and helps develop region-specific information and knowledge products.

PreventionWeb, the internet-based global DRR information platform, was launched. PreventionWeb provides an enabling environment for collaboration, knowledge sharing and exchange of experiences on DRR for policy makers, practitioners and the public at large. It also aims to manage and stimulate new knowledge and increase the quality and availability of DRR-related information worldwide.

Through the UN/ISDR secretariat working with other partners, linkages were established between the climate change and disaster risk reduction agendas. A major breakthrough was the inclusion of DRR as an integral part of climate change adaptation expressed in the Bali Plan of Action of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP-13, December 2007).

Another major achievement was the successful initial year of the partnership of the World Bank and the UN/ISDR for implementation of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) at global and regional levels. The secretariat is responsible for implementing GFDRR Track I for global and regional action to develop partnerships, baseline information, tools and methodologies. Still a young initiative, the Facility is poised to play a significant role to upscale the Bank's own mainstreaming of DRR into poverty reduction strategies and climate change adaptation, while providing technical assistance and seed resources for national DRR programmes and recovery assessments and operations.

Last but not least, the year 2007 also witnessed a 40 percent rise in contributions to the UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction, as compared to 2006.

### Main challenges

Three main challenges have been identified regarding the implementation of the secretariat's workplan:

*Information and knowledge:* In most cases, the secretariat acts as the link between the sources and users of this information and knowledge. For greater effectiveness, the secretariat needs to contribute more directly to the production and dissemination of information and knowledge products.

*Support to national efforts:* ISDR System partners pledged to help countries implement the HFA but there remains a major gap between the expressed goodwill and action on the ground. While not an implementing agency, the secretariat catalyzes and facilitates action on the ground by partners. As the secretariat's role in facilitating work at country level is not sufficiently clear to various national actors, it needs to develop a stronger team effort with ISDR System partners to facilitate the work of national actors.

*Resource mobilization:* The secretariat facilitates resource mobilization for the ISDR System as a whole, including funding for the ISDR System Joint Work Programme. Donors expressed appreciation for the Joint Work Programme, but few resources have so far been made available for this purpose, hence not sufficiently increasing the multi-agency and team efforts required to provide long-term sustainable support to DRR. At the same time, the secretariat needs adequate resources to fully implement its workplan. Even though donor funding for the secretariat increased in 2007, it still does not meet essential requirements and thus smooth operations are still hampered by funding limitations.

### Toward improved results-based management

In 2007, the secretariat strengthened its results-based management (RBM) approach, building on good practices of other UN bodies. This included preparation of a structured, results-oriented workplan for 2008-2009. Efforts to strengthen RBM in the secretariat are under way in 2008. They include the development of a monitoring and evaluation framework and periodic internal performance reviews which are linked with the emerging monitoring system for the ISDR System Joint Work Programme.

Two additional monitoring exercises, that are central in the UN/ISDR secretariat work, complement this monitoring and evaluation framework: (1) the development of a Biennial Global Review and Monitoring of the Implementation of the HFA presented to each session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (see "Global Review 2007" and the upcoming "Global Assessment Report 2009"); and (2) the preparation of the annual Secretary-General's Report on the Implementation of the ISDR to the UN General Assembly.

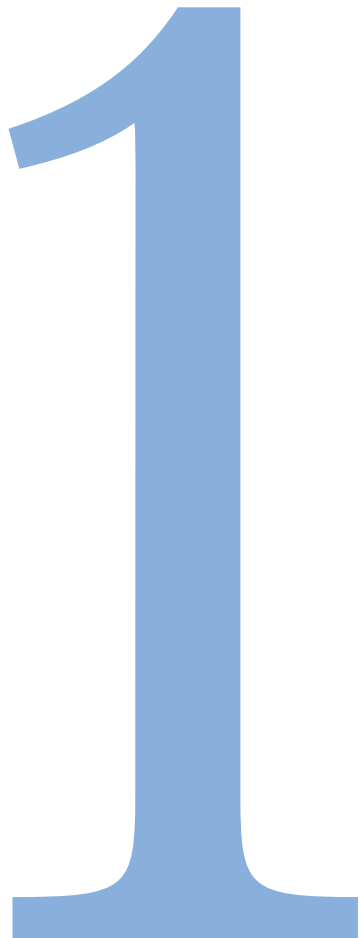




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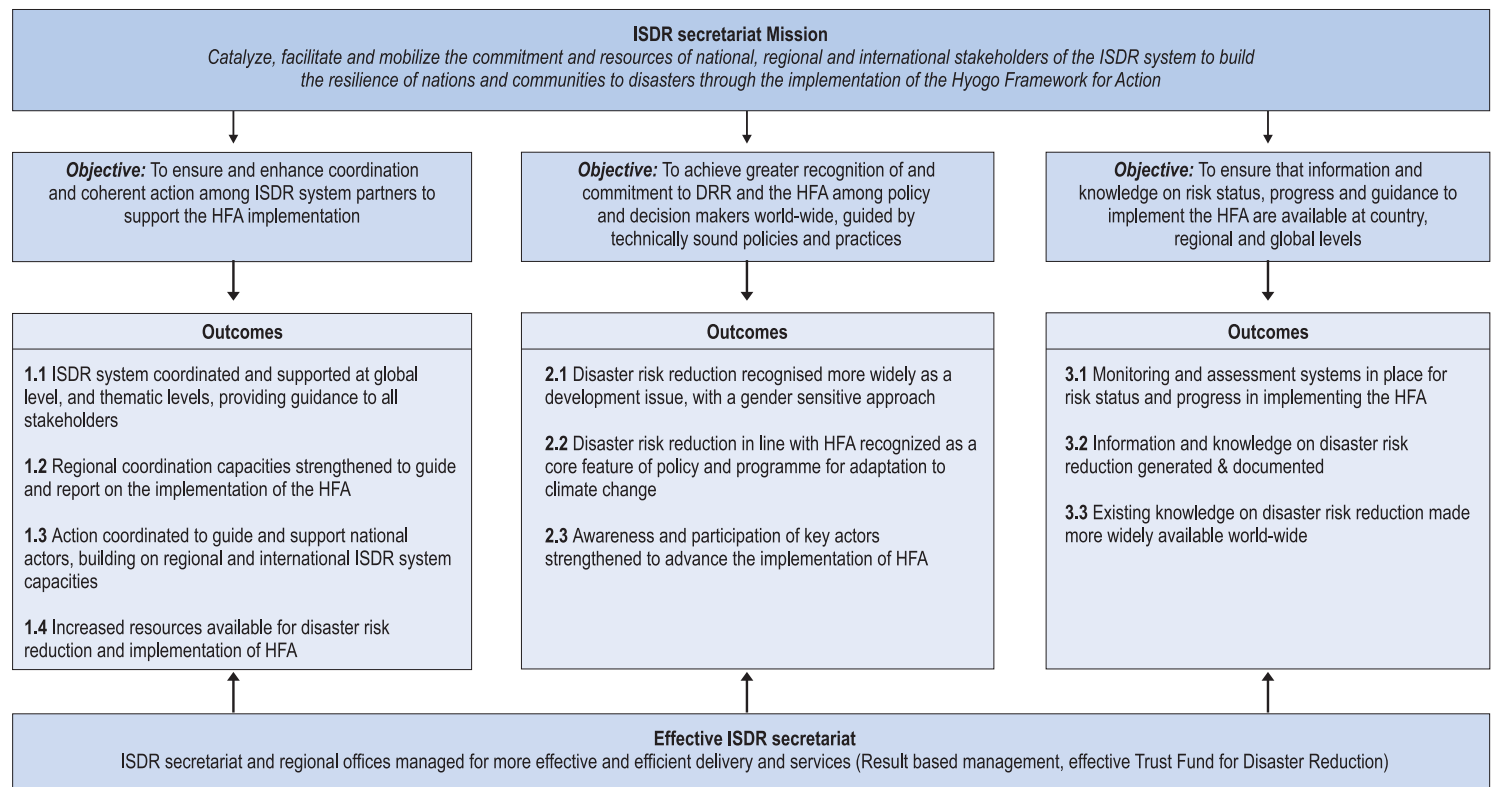




# New Developments

## 1.1. Organizational Aspects

As a facilitating body, the UN/ISDR followed the objectives for 2007 as set out in its Biennial Workplan 2006-2007. A mid-term review in December 2006 led to consolidation of objectives with the work at regional level, and increased focus in the area of climate change. Following the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction deliberations in mid-June 2007, further adjustments in emphasis were introduced, which served as the basis for focus of the new Workplan 2008-2009. The present report builds on this new structure in terms of outcomes, while reflecting the agreed outputs as per the 2007 Workplan.



*Colombia, 2nd committee, 62nd GA, 29.10.2007*

*We acknowledge the responsibility of States in the protection of the people and we support the strengthening of the national efforts by the intensification of bilateral, regional and international cooperation. A cooperation, which includes the technical and financial assistance, promotes the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the countries, and contributes to the development of early alert systems.*

The secretariat's seven priority result areas in 2007 were: (1) coordination of the ISDR system at all levels; (2) increased national commitment; (3) guidance and reporting systems; (4) information platform functioning; (5) regional capacity enhanced; (6) Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery Track I as part of UN/ISDR workplan; and (7) improved resource mobilization for DRR.

The secretariat, overseen by the office of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, was restructured and strengthened in 2007 to better respond to the increasing expectations set out in the HFA and following the deliberations at Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. With additional staff resources in the areas of inter-agency work programming, progress monitoring and information management, in addition to more regional capacity, the secretariat developed better monitoring and more effective internal management practices. The secretariat also made efforts to prioritize deliverables and improve resource mobilization, as had been called for by the HFA. This has accompanied and enabled the development of more structured partnerships within the ISDR System, but it has also raised expectations of support among stakeholders in the regions and among agencies, which is a continuous challenge for the secretariat.

The secretariat headquarters is located in Geneva, where the Director's office oversees units for policy development, advocacy and partnerships, information management, global progress reporting, inter-agency programming and monitoring, donor relations and administration. To increase high-level advocacy and maintain international attention on DRR, the secretariat has a liaison office in New York to assist and work closer with the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the Secretary-General, and the UN Development Group, on issues related to disaster reduction and ISDR, as well as to liaise with Member States (General Assembly, ECOSOC and the Commission on Sustainable Development) and New York-based agencies.

Following the adoption of the HFA and increased global awareness of the importance of risk reduction, the demands by partners for support from the secretariat increased substantially. This spurred, among other things, a renewed effort by the secretariat to strengthen its managerial practices including adoption of results-based management, put in place for the biennium 2006-2007. A revised monitoring and evaluation framework will be finalized and put into practice in 2008 by the secretariat.

Development of the 2008-2009 secretariat Biennial Workplan was conducted from the perspective of identifying the results which the secretariat would aim to achieve, taking into account both its mandate and comparative advantages, as well as current global priorities in risk reduction emerging from the Global Platform. The Biennial Workplan identifies not only results at global and regional levels, but also achievement indicators and responsible staff, linked to the ISDR System Joint Work Programme. A monitoring and evaluation framework is being finalized and put into practice in 2008.

## 1.2. Regional Developments

The UN/ISDR secretariat functions have been replicated in the regions and an increased regional outreach capacity has developed over the biennium 2006-2007.

In 2007, the secretariat enhanced its presence and staff resources in Africa (based in Nairobi, Addis Ababa and Johannesburg), the Americas (based in Panama with additional support from UN/ISDR liaison office in New York) and in Asia/Pacific (in Bangkok, Thailand, with support from UN/ISDR staff in Kobe, Japan, and Islamabad, Pakistan). New units were established for Europe (in Geneva) and West Asia/North Africa (in Cairo, Egypt, with support from UN/ISDR staff in Dushanbe, Tajikistan and Iran).

A combination of UN volunteers, local staff and international experts was recruited to work with partners to enhance national and regional commitments and actions to implement the HFA. The new office in Cairo, Egypt, became operational in mid-2007, initially hosted by the Egyptian Red Crescent Society. A staff member was placed in Tehran, hosted by the UNDP to support sub-regional developments. A Kobe (Japan) hub for UN/ISDR was re-launched in October 2007 to support work in East Asia and in thematic areas such as the International Recovery Platform and landslide risk reduction. Agreements for strategic collaboration with regional bodies such as the Commission of the African Union (AU), the Organization of American States (OAS), the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), the Central American Coordination Center for Disaster Prevention (CEPRENAC), the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and the Council of Europe are only a few of the most relevant bodies which entered different types of agreements with the secretariat.

In 2007 approximately 40 per cent of UN/ISDR secretariat staff and more than half of non-staff resources were dedicated to work in the regions. This includes 70 per cent of the contribution to UN/ISDR secretariat from the GFDRR dedicated to regional work.

The UN/ISDR secretariat's regional offices played a catalytic role in mobilizing complementary support for regional and national DRR processes from regional organizations, UN agencies and donors.

### 1.3. Financial Overview

As reported by the Secretary-General at the 2007 UN General Assembly, the UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction, administered

by the UN/ISDR secretariat, is “an appropriate vehicle for expanded action of the ISDR System...in support of countries’ implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.” It permits central investments to be made with confidence that actions undertaken at global, regional and national levels are in line with the HFA, address the priorities identified by the UN General Assembly and the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and ensure strategic and programmatic coherence of the actions of key ISDR System partners. This is exemplified by the ISDR System Joint Work Programme 2008-2009, which will form the centrepiece of the expanded UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction

The endorsement of the UN General Assembly echoes a gradual increase in commitments to the Trust Fund as the articulation of the ISDR System becomes more apparent, and as growing demands upon the UN/ISDR secretariat require strengthened capacities. Support from donors to the ISDR secretariat also increased in 2007. Currently, only voluntary extra-budgetary contributions fund the secretariat. It was only relatively recently that the UN/ISDR secretariat made a concerted effort to raise resources beyond its own workplan via the UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction. This increasingly important but still nascent brokering function has already produced interesting results.

Main donors meet in a dedicated, informal forum where they discuss topical issues of a financing nature in order to provide guidance to the secretariat. This is prompted by the rising magnitude of contributions

*Norway, 2nd committee, 62nd GA, 29.10.2007*

*The UN’s International Strategy for Disaster Reduction is a key element in the global drive toward sustainable development.*

UN TFDR 2007 Donors > US\$ 1 million per annum. (US\$ '000)	
European Commission	5,365
World Bank	5,000
Sweden	2,576
United Kingdom	1,994
Japan	1,107
Norway	1,079

to the UN TFDR, be it through support for the UN/ISDR secretariat Workplan, the new ISDR System Joint Work Programme 2008-2009, or for ongoing initiatives of ISDR System partners for which the UN/ISDR secretariat has brokered support (e.g. the Indian Ocean Consortium or the International Early Warning Programme). UN/ISDR secretariat regularly briefs the ISDR Support Group, currently chaired by Argentina and previously by Switzerland, on developments related to the Workplan.

### *Total income 2007*

Annual contributions totalled US\$ 21.04 million in 2007, which translated to a 40 per cent rise in income, compared with that of the calendar year 2006 (US\$ 15.01 million).

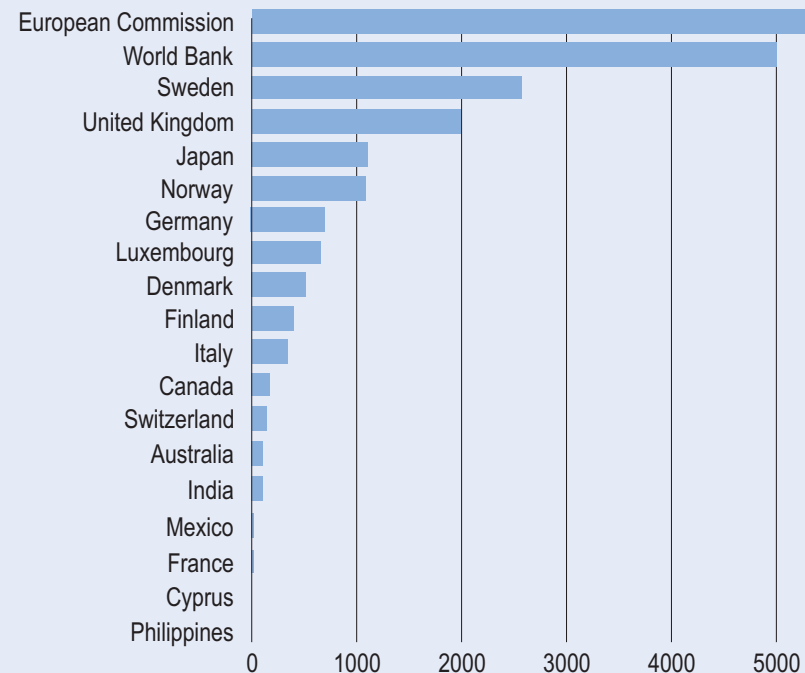
In addition to the cash contributions noted above, the UN/ISDR secretariat received support, in 2007, from several other sources. This included human resource support through Junior Professional Officer (JPO) programmes from Finland, Italy, Norway and Sweden, as well as a contribution from Canada's IDRC (International Development Research Centre) for the production and preparation costs of a tool-kit publication called "Disaster Risk Reduction Today: Global Context Local Tools" in Spanish for Latin America and the Caribbean. Additional human resources were provided to the UN/ISDR secretariat by UNDP/BCPR (Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery) in support of the development and implementation of the upcoming Global Assessment Report 2009 and associated mechanisms. Switzerland contributed to meeting some of the logistical costs of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2007, as well as providing technical assistance to the organization of the event.

### *Donor sources and funding characteristics*

In line with its strategy to broaden its donor base and actively seek funding of an un-earmarked, multi-annual nature, the UN/ISDR secretariat succeeded in attracting contributions from four new donors in 2007: Australia, India, Luxembourg and Mexico. Australia's commitment, as with those of the UK and the World Bank, is one of a multi-annual, three year nature. In this vein, the outlook following preliminary resource mobilization discussions augur well for



## 2007 Contributions Received by the UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction (US\$ '000)



2008, with an increasing number of donors recognizing the need to strengthen the predictability and financial sustainability of a secretariat that is supported entirely from extra-budgetary sources.

The secretariat, however, is still confronted with the handicap that the majority of its income is received in the second half of the calendar year. With little operating reserve, and being funded entirely from extra-budgetary sources, the UN/ISDR secretariat has little in the way of cash reserves with which it can finance field and headquarter staff costs and programme activities. Encouraging contributions as early in the fiscal year as possible, ideally in the first two quarters of the calendar year, will be a feature of future fund-raising dialogue with donors in 2008 and beyond.

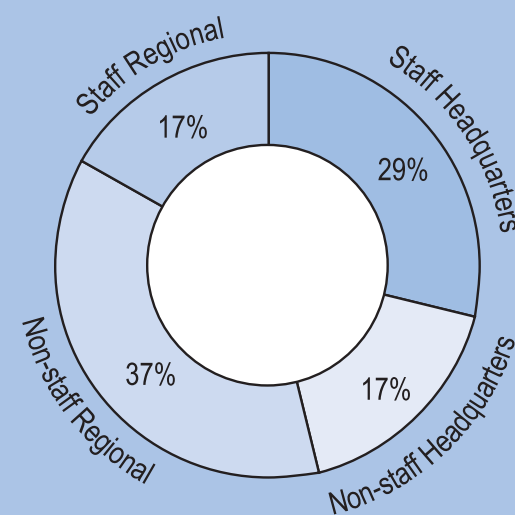
Partly in recognition of this problem, in their UN General Assembly Resolution 62/192 (11 February 2008), Member States stressed “the importance of disaster risk reduction and subsequent growing demands on the ISDR secretariat and the need to review the current methods of financing the ISDR secretariat, with a view

to stabilising its financial base”, and requested “the Secretary-General to submit a proposal for that purpose in his next report”.

#### *Expenditure Trends*

The secretariat’s expenditure for 2007 was US\$ 19.8 million of a total of US\$ 21.0 million received, which equates to an expenditure rate of 94.3 per cent. The secretariat aspires to increase this rate in 2008, an objective that would be facilitated if a greater proportion of contributions made were received earlier in the year.

Expenditure patterns, vis-à-vis costs incurred by headquarters versus regional offices, reflect the broader strategy of the UN/ISDR secretariat in reinforcing its support functions to the ISDR System in the regions, sub-regions and in support of triggering national action. Fifty-four per cent of funds expended were utilised in the regional programmes of the total budget. Similarly, less than half of the secretariat’s expenditure overall is for staff costs, with a similar amount going to non-staff costs incurred both in the regions and at headquarters.



UN/ISDR secretariat  
Distribution of  
Expenditures in 2007

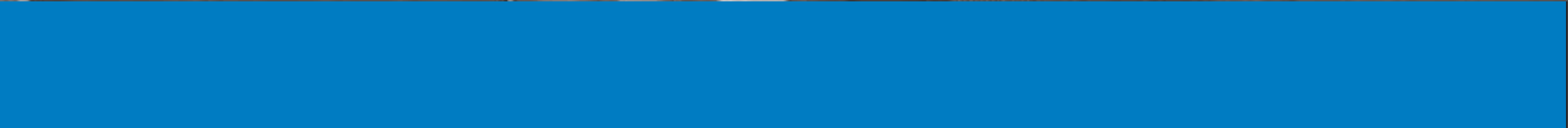


Roundtable Discussion  
Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School  
Next Steps of the 2006-2007 UN/ISDR  
World Disaster Reduction Campaign

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



Ms. Parvati W. Th  
Director  
Office of Disaster Preparedness, UNISDR







# Achievements In 2007

## 2.1. ISDR System Coordination and Resource Mobilization

### 2.1.1. Providing Guidance to Stakeholders

In 2007, the UN/ISDR secretariat made significant efforts in expanding and strengthening the ISDR System. Organizing the ISDR as a system of partnerships was essential to energize, coordinate, provide guidance and technical support to DRR knowledge at all levels with strong ownership and commitment by national authorities. This work was coupled with the development of policy notes for the functioning of the System and information tools to support it, as well as an ISDR System planning framework and an HFA monitoring and reporting system.

The UN/ISDR secretariat's efforts focused on supporting global, regional and thematic entities, to stimulate coordination and support for DRR, monitor progress and provide better guidance and assistance to national and local actors. Specific strategies were used to engage the UN System, the World Bank, regional inter-governmental organizations, thematic groups and networks, and States.

#### *Main results include:*

- Successful organization of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in June 2007, building on the Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction and WCDR (World Conference on Disaster Reduction) participants, with participation from national Governments,

national platforms for DRR, regional partners, UN agencies, civil society organizations and expert institutions. The Global Platform attracted high-level participation from many Governments and organizations, and from different sectors, despite being mainly a working level forum. Its first session in June 2007 was attended by 1,100 participants from 124 national delegations and 105 international, regional and civil society organizations. This is an indication of how commitment to disaster risk reduction is growing. (See summary of deliberations at: [www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform](http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform))

This first session focused on sharing experience, assessing progress in HFA implementation, in particular Priority for Action 1 (Making disaster risk reduction a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis) and raising the profile of the subject, with special high-level dialogue focusing on urban risk and climate change adaptation. The session was preceded by regional consultations and meetings to elaborate regional baseline reports on progress and policy statements. A reference group of UN agencies, the World Bank and civil society organizations further provided advice on enhanced modalities for the ISDR System and a joint planning framework to provide coherent support to national implementation.

An advisory group of Member States, drawn from the ISDR Support Group, worked closely with the secretariat during the preparation of the Global Platform session.

The Session and its results were noted “with great interest and appreciation” in UN General Assembly Resolution on the implementation of ISDR 62/192 (see: [www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org) “UN Resolutions”). The results and advice from the Global Platform are often cited by Governments or agencies to guide their own work and as a forum for them.

- The UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs (USG) established a Management Oversight Board (MOB) in 2006 to assist him in providing high-level advocacy on DRR in general and strategic directions within the United Nations (including to the Secretary-General) and to the UN/ISDR secretariat. It met four times in 2007. It consists of his peers from UNDG (UN Development Group)/UNDP, the World Bank, UNEP, WMO, OCHA and IFRC; giving access to influence on development, environment, scientific, humanitarian and community-based settings and stakeholder groups.
- Following the first session of the Global Platform in June 2007, the USG invited the heads of a set of key ISDR system partners (FAO, ILO, UN/OCHA, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP, WMO and the World Bank together with IFRC and the UN/ISDR secretariat) to appoint senior focal points to come together as an ISDR Inter-Agency Group to advance joint programming at global, regional and country levels.
  - The first ISDR System Global Level Joint Work Programme (2008-2009) was finalized by the end of 2007 and presented to donors and the ISDR Support Group. The Joint Work Programme is geared to support countries to implement the five HFA Priorities for Action and cross-cutting requirements including community participation, gender and risk reduction and capacity development.
  - Specific results were identified, as were lead agencies to ensure complementary and coherent action by the contributing partner agencies. The Joint Work Programme builds on pre-existing joint activities and existing mechanisms.
  - Work started in 2007 in Asia/Pacific and the Americas to extend the Joint Work Programme also to the regional level.
- The work of the Inter-Agency Group has since expanded beyond joint work programming to include improved coherence and coordination on a range of issues, among them UN System support to countries through UNDG. The UN/ISDR secretariat convenes and leads the Group on behalf of the USG.
- As an outcome of advocacy and policy work by the UN/ISDR secretariat, the Office of the USG and ISDR/MOB members, the UN System is increasing its efforts to better coordinate disaster risk reduction and use the Hyogo Framework to guide development programmes. This is reflected through the work of the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB), the UNDG and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), including the Office of the Secretary-General. Consequently, these bodies have worked closely with the UN/ISDR secretariat to develop the following specific results which will be rolled out in 2008:
  - The UNDG, together with the UN/ISDR secretariat, set up a joint Task Team on Disaster Risk Reduction. The goal is to further mainstream DRR and the HFA into UN programming processes at country level and systematically and coherently increase the UN System's country-level operational support to Member States to implement DRR strategies, using as direct entry points the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and indirectly through national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, etc. The Task Team is co-chaired by UNDP and UNEP. The UN/ISDR secretariat has an advisory role to the Task Team and ensures linkage to the wider DRR community, in particular with partners of the ISDR System.
  - The IASC has developed guidance on HFA Priority for Action 5 (Preparedness for Effective Response) with guidance from the UN/ISDR secretariat.
  - The CEB and its High-Level Committee on Programs (HLCP) helped prepare the UN position in climate change for the UNFCCC (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) COP-13 in Bali, Indonesia, to which the UN/ISDR secretariat provided inputs. The UN Secretary-

General report to the UN General Assembly, entitled “Overview of United Nations Activities in Relation to Climate Change” (A/62/644), identifies clearly the UN/ISDR secretariat as the coordinating body for DRR in support of climate change adaptation.

- Several UN agencies have reviewed their internal policies on DRR, aligning more to the ISDR System and HFA. For example, the UN/ISDR secretariat was invited to the Joint Meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP and helped the WFP prepare the session on DRR. WMO, UNICEF and WHO are other UN organizations which have requested specific collaboration and guidance from the UN/ISDR secretariat to design their own strategic plans and work programmes on DRR to be brought to their governing bodies.
- In 2007, the UN/ISDR secretariat developed a policy note to formalise and stimulate the development of thematic platforms, linked to the HFA priorities for action. The policy note sets out criteria for these entities, and outlines their relationships and responsibilities within the ISDR System.
- The UN/ISDR secretariat advanced in strengthening platforms in a few thematic areas in 2007. Some examples are: the management in Bonn of the Platform for Promotion of Early Warning (PPEW); support of the working group on environment (UNEP); support of the International Recovery Platform on Recovery (IRP), with its secretariat in Kobe, Japan, with UNDP, ILO, the World Bank and others; an emerging network on drought risk reduction; different levels of support to the Thematic Platform on Knowledge and Education (see under 2006-2007 awareness campaign); and leading the Working Group on Climate Change and DRR. All of these were organized side events at the Global Platform session. They have since developed workplans as part of the ISDR System Joint Work Programme (see “List of Partnerships and Thematic Platforms” in Annex 1).

- The UN/ISDR secretariat supported the process in selecting interim scientific and technical (S&T) committee members and holding a preparatory scoping workshop April 2007, chaired by UNESCO. At the end of 2007 the advisory entity was in the process of arranging the first meeting of the S&T Committee primarily to endorse its Terms of Reference and work plan for 2008. It is envisaged that the Committee would establish panels and working groups as needed, to effectively meet the scientific and technical needs of the ISDR system.

### 2.1.2. Facilitating Regional Capacities and Cooperation

Regional platforms for DRR, building on existing capacities, play a significant role in supporting national capacities, programming and reporting, as well as enhancing regional cooperation as set out in the HFA. They provide a link between national platforms and the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The definition of a “regional platform for disaster risk reduction” varies in each region. Each region has developed different arrangements. The UN/ISDR secretariat’s regional offices service these platforms and meetings in support of the leading regional body and host country.

Following consultations organized by the UN/ISDR secretariat in all the regions, the basic role of the regional platforms is to:

- a. Facilitate HFA implementation at national and regional levels;
- b. Review trends in DRR development and HFA implementation at regional level, identify gaps in DRR processes, and provide recommendations; and
- c. Support reporting on HFA implementation, including national reporting and regional reporting to the Global Platform and other bodies in the regions.

*Portugal, on behalf of European Union, 2nd committee, 62nd GA, 29.10.2007*

*The European Union takes this opportunity to emphasise, once again, the importance of the Global Platform for Disaster Reduction, which held its first meeting in Geneva, last June, and which constitutes the main global forum of the strengthened ISDR system, working as a medium for experience sharing, advocacy, progress reporting and identification of gaps and challenges for the ISDR system, among others.*

In addition, the UN/ISDR secretariat provided advisory services upon request by Member States which offered to assign or develop ISDR-specialized collaborative centres for capacity development and promoting regional cooperation, as set out in the HFA. These initiatives included in 2007:

- The launch in May 2007 of the Asian Seismic Risk Reduction Center in Tehran, Iran, sponsored and technically supported by the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- The launch in April 2007 of an ISDR International Drought Reduction Centre in Beijing, China, sponsored and technically supported by the People's Republic of China.
- Initial negotiations undertaken with the national authorities of South Korea and the South Korean city of Incheon to set up an ISDR Training Centre for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction in Incheon, in collaboration with other UN partners (UN/ESCAP, UNU, UN-Habitat and others).



## Africa

An Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, adopted prior to the HFA with support from the UN/ISDR secretariat and endorsed by African Heads of State and Government through the African Union (AU), forms the basis for the commitment of African states and for the African Regional Platform for DRR. In April 2007 in Nairobi, Kenya, a session of the African Regional Platform was held with UN/ISDR secretariat support, by the Commission of the AU, attended by over 120 delegates, including 12 ambassadors and high commissioners, the Commission of the AU, technical organizations, UN Agencies and some civil society organizations. Recommendations from the African Regional Platform session were brought to a West African Ministerial Conference on DRR organized in May 2007 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, by the UN/ISDR secretariat, the Commission of the AU, the Economic Commission for West African States (ECOWAS) and the World Bank – through the GFDRR (Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery). The Ministerial Conference was attended by 15 West African countries who met to finalize and adopt a sub-regional DRR strategy for West Africa. The regional meetings in Nairobi and Abidjan formulated statements and progress

reports which were presented to the Global Platform session in June 2007.

Organizational arrangements between the Commission of the AU, Regional Economic Commissions (RECs) and the UN/ISDR secretariat will be agreed upon in 2008 to institutionalize the African Regional Platform and the relationship to the Ministerial meetings. The UN/ISDR secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commission of the AU and has placed a senior advisor in Addis Ababa (in Ethiopia where the Commission of the AU is headquartered) to facilitate the collaboration. The UN/ISDR secretariat and the Commission of the AU also worked with some of the RECs to agree on implementation modalities for their sub-regional strategies for DRR. In 2008, the UN/ISDR secretariat, together with the GFDRR, will provide human resource support to at least two RECs to increase their capacities.



## The Americas

The Organization of the American States (OAS) provides the regional mechanism through which the preparatory stages of a regional platform for the Americas were developed in 2007. An informal consultation among regionally active organizations was conducted in Panama by the UN/ISDR secretariat ahead of the June 2007 Global Platform session. Sub-regional mechanisms, such as the CEPREDENAC (Central American Coordination Center for Disaster Prevention), CAPRADE (Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Assistance), the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) and CDERA (Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency), with their member states, would become key components of the regional platform, using also their own forums for programming and follow-up. A Cooperation Agreement between the UN/ISDR secretariat and OAS, signed during the Global Platform session, set the basis for the development of the regional platform, with a major role attached to the OAS Department of Sustainable Development to catalyze the process in close collaboration with UN/ISDR Americas. The regional platform meeting will take place before the Second Session of the Global Platform for DRR in mid-2009. In the

meantime, all the existing regional mechanisms are working with the UN/ISDR secretariat to incorporate some functions and reviews in their already existing forums.

One important milestone meeting was organized by the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) from 14 to 16 November 2007 in the Republic of Haiti: a "High-Level Conference on Disaster Reduction". It brought together representatives of 21 of the Greater Caribbean's countries, the highest attendance in that region for an event focusing exclusively on DRR issues. The Conference provided the opportunity for countries to exchange information, analyse their risks and disaster management trends as well as the progress being made. The Conference concluded with a statement on the need for a common strategy linked to sustainable development for the nations of the Greater Caribbean region, defining the terms and priority lines of action for HFA implementation.

## Asia and the Pacific

The first Ministerial Conference on DRR in Asia and the Pacific was convened and hosted by the People's Republic of China following the January 2005 World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR). The Conference agreed to continue with similar ministerial conferences on a biennial basis, hosted by an interested country and supported by the UN/ISDR secretariat and other regional organizations to follow up on HFA implementation. The Second Asian Ministerial Conference on DRR was hosted by India in Delhi in November 2007. In addition to sharing experience and discussing specific topics for regional cooperation, Ministers and senior officials formally endorsed an expanded ISDR Asian Partnership on DRR (IAP) created in 2003 as the 'action arm' of the Asia Regional Platform for DRR. The Delhi Ministerial Declaration includes recommendations prepared by the Expanded IAP on strengthening regional cooperation in the context of the HFA and ISDR.

The Expanded IAP agreed on the modality and function of the Asia Regional Platform and to broaden its membership, in particular to include committed regional civil society organizations, donors and sub-regional inter-governmental institutions including the Asian Development Bank. The Regional Platform



## Europe

will be linked to ongoing political processes in the region, including the Asian Ministerial Conferences on DRR, the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) Regional Consultative Committee (RCC), Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) annual Asian Disaster Reduction Conference, and sub-regional inter-governmental meetings, as appropriate. The functions agreed for the IAP include: monitoring of HFA progress; coordinating regional support to national-level HFA implementation; supporting DRR advocacy and policy initiatives; providing a link between national platforms and the Global Platform; information management and mapping of regional DRR stakeholders and programmes; and providing thematic guidance and prioritization of regional DRR issues.

In addition, the UN/ISDR Asia/Pacific unit collaborated with the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Secretariat to support the recognition and integration of DRR and HFA as part of APEC Secretariat policies and frameworks.

Lastly, an agreement was reached between UN/ISDR Asia/Pacific and the ASEAN Secretariat, for the UN/ISDR secretariat to provide ASEAN with human resources to increase its capacity to serve its member states in devising DRR policies and reports. Similar negotiations were initiated - for South Asia - with the Secretariat of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation).

In Europe, it is mainly the Council of Europe, through its EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement, that is increasingly facilitating the development of a regional platform, supported by an informal network of national platforms and the UN/ISDR secretariat.

The Council of Europe EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement is an intergovernmental platform for co-operation in the field of major natural and technological disasters between Eastern Europe, the South of the Mediterranean and Western Europe. It has to date 25 member states. Non-member states of the Council of Europe can join the agreement. Currently it focuses on sharing good practices, implementing activities to reduce vulnerability in the region and supporting country assessments. EUR-OPA and the UN/ISDR secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in these areas which includes EUR-OPA support to facilitate national platforms meetings, advocating for new national platforms, and supporting countries in monitoring and reporting on HFA progress. Several meetings with member states were held in 2007, prior to and in follow-up to the Global Platform session, some of which were hosted

by the existing network of national platforms (France, Germany and Switzerland), others by the Council of Europe.

In addition, within the European Union and European Commission, a series of initiatives to develop coherence and new policies on DRR were initiated in 2007 in response to the HFA with support from the UN/ISDR secretariat. The Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative (DPPI) in South Eastern Europe is also committed to the HFA and has been working with the UN/ISDR secretariat and the GFDRR, in close collaboration with WMO and other UN organizations, on a regional framework initiative for risk assessments, early warning collaboration and disaster mitigation. Partnership between the UN/ISDR secretariat and the World Bank, involving many partners from the UN, bilateral agencies and Governments in the region, helped develop jointly an initiative labelled recently the 'South Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Programme' (SEEDRMAP).



## West Asia and North Africa

The UN/ISDR secretariat began working in this region in mid-2007, focusing mainly on introducing a paradigm shift towards DRR - previously insignificant in the region. Climate change (especially manifested in water scarcity in the region) and other avenues were entry points for the UN/ISDR secretariat in the region. Politically, most countries in the region belong to either the African Union or Asian regional organizations. The UN/ISDR secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) which consists of 10 Central Asian countries with its secretariat in Tehran, Iran, and which has a Tehran-based staff member hosted by the UNDP to help implement the MOU. Technical meetings among countries were convened by ECO - with support from the UN/ISDR secretariat - on education and safer schools (in Pakistan) and seismic risk (in Iran).

The UN/ISDR secretariat also prepared a MOU with the League of Arab States (LAS), which includes areas of technical cooperation, and agreement at political level to advocate for DRR to its member states. The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport has provided UN/ISDR West Asia/North Africa with office facilities and in-kind

cooperation with human resources since 2008. An initial regional workshop on risk assessment and DRR took place in March 2007, organized by the UN/ISDR secretariat and the GFDRR, which gave birth to the UN/ISDR secretariat's presence in the region.



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



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



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



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



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

### 2.1.3. Supporting National Actors

DRR is a long-term process, that is an essential condition of ensuring sustainable development and, which should be part of each country's development process. Its effectiveness relies heavily on national ownership and leadership.

In 2007, increased commitment by Governments, parliamentarians, NGOs and other stakeholders resulted in scaling up implementation and resources for DRR. Furthermore, a number of national Governments devised instruments to guide policy and enacted legislation for risk reduction. Others integrated risk reduction into their national development plans or poverty reduction strategies.

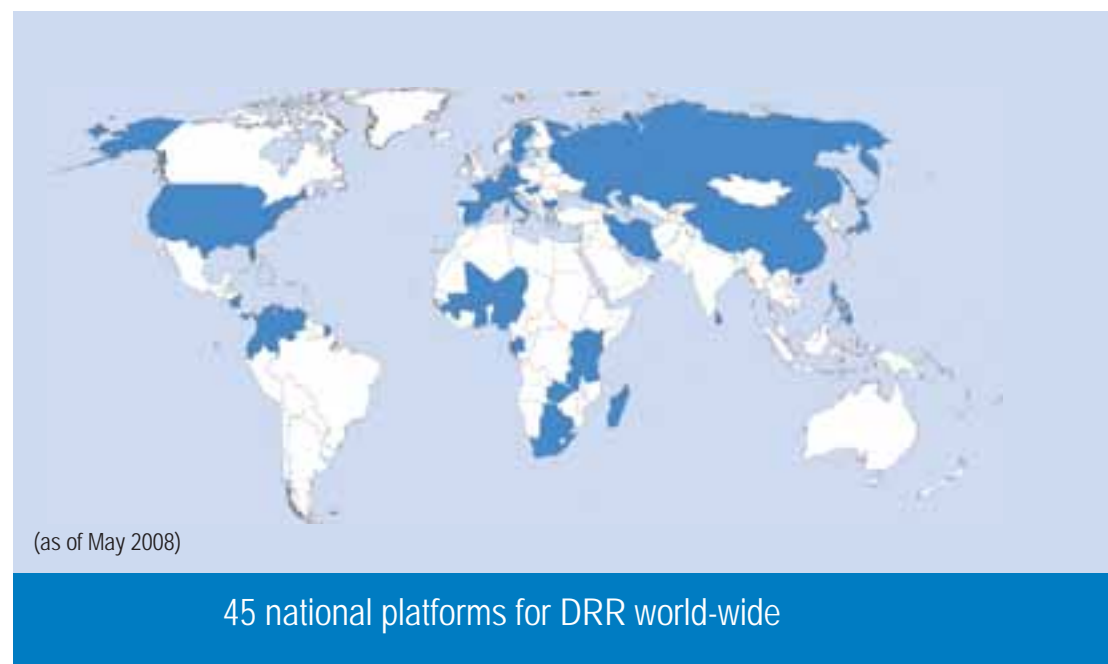
A total of 120 Governments have now designated official focal points for HFA implementation, follow up and monitoring, with the following countries joining the list in 2007: The Maldives, Nepal, Thailand, Montenegro and the United Kingdom.

At local level, regarding specifically HFA Priority for Action 1 (Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority), the Indonesian initiative to prepare strategic local action plans for DRR in three districts affected by the May 2006 earthquake is considered the first attempt in Asia/Pacific to implement the HFA at local level. A Philippines National Conference on Mainstreaming DRR into Local Governance took place to improve coordination among national and local-level activities and how to improve access to development funds for local-level DRR. Iran has balanced funding for DRR and is now allocating 45 per cent of disaster resources for prevention, preparedness and response. In India, over 150 civil society leaders launched the National Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction (NADRR) to serve as a platform to scale up community-led DRR initiatives; enable communities to access resources and engage policymakers; ensure that development does not increase disaster risk, and to recognize, validate and build on local knowledge and capacities. In Central America, UN/ISDR secretariat supported an alliance of local authorities to work on local HFA implementation.

### *General trend on national platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction*

In 2007, six new countries launched or declared their national platforms: a trend which continues in 2008. Currently there are 45 formally appointed national platforms and at least 10 more in advanced stages of preparation. National platforms build on existing mechanisms with multi-stakeholder membership as a commitment to participation, open dialogue and better coordination of advice on all aspects of DRR, risk assessment, priority setting and reporting, among other tasks. In many cases, national platforms are set up as committees including consultative efforts also at district level. In a few cases, they are working together with national climate change commissions.

Despite this positive trend and recognition of the added value of a multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism, it remains challenging for many countries to sustain their functions in a systematic way. Even when commitment is based on strong political support, financial and human resources are scarce. It works best where these coordination mechanisms or committees – the national platforms – are led by and linked to existing institutional mechanisms with appropriate legal





backing. Additional efforts - both by national Governments and the international community, including bilateral cooperation agencies - are needed to directly support HFA focal point institutions through capacity development, planning, risk assessments and other technical and material assistance.

#### *UN/ISDR secretariat support to national platforms/national coordination mechanisms*

At global level, in cooperation with ISDR System partners (UNDP/BCPR, the World Bank and ProVention Consortium), the secretariat organised a Workshop on national mechanisms during the first session of the Global Platform for DRR. HFA focal points as well as representatives of national coordination mechanisms presented 26 case studies in the field of national coordination/national platform, policy and legislative systems, mainstreaming and community-based DRR. The exchange helped to take stock of current practices and share lessons learned to promote replication of good practices.



(as of May 2008)

120 HFA Focal Points

Separately, the UN/ISDR secretariat published and widely distributed, as reference documents, Guidelines for national platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction in the six UN languages, and Words into Action: A Guide for Implementing the Hyogo Framework. Both documents have been finalised following consultative processes carried out since late 2006 with National Governments and national platforms. UN/ISDR Americas published, in Spanish, a toolkit entitled *La Gestión del riesgo de desastres hoy: Contextos globales, herramientas locales* (Disaster Risk Management Today: Global Contexts, Local Tools).

At regional and country level, in cooperation with country-based ISDR partners such as the UNDP, the UN/ISDR secretariat:

- Facilitated networking and exchange among national platforms and HFA focal points. Several countries (including Burundi, China, Madagascar, Maldives, Norway, Indonesia, Senegal, Sri Lanka and Sweden) and on a regional basis countries in Europe and Latin America – were involved in such exchanges focusing on the functioning of national platforms and cooperation using national coordination mechanisms.
- Helped in organizing and starting multi-stakeholder dialogues and in launching national platforms for DRR. The UN/ISDR secretariat's role was to advocate with Governments and respond to requests to help organize initial workshops. In most cases, the workshops involved UNDP country offices and other international actors active in DRR in the country. National platforms launched with this support in 2007 include those of Burundi (February), Togo (April), Lesotho (August), Sweden (September), Cape Verde (November) and South Africa (December).
- Contributed to or triggered national processes to devise Strategic National Action Plans for DRR, in collaboration mainly with UNDP country offices. In South-East Asia, this included raising resources for such processes, negotiating with different partners (including donors) and providing comments on draft versions (in the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia,

*Ecuador, 2nd committee, 62nd GA, 29.10.2007*

*El Ecuador se encuentra ubicado geográficamente en una zona sensible a los desastres y en los últimos años ha debido hacer frente a los efectos adversos de los mismos, en especial con la urgencia de apoyar a las comunidades más vulnerable del país. Es por esto que mi delegación se encuentra firmemente comprometida con las acciones encaminadas a implementar el Marco de Acción de Hyogo en el plano nacional y local, en especial a través del establecimiento de una Plataforma Nacional, con el apoyo de la Estrategia Internacional para la Reducción de Desastres.*

Vanuatu and Cambodia) or linking national partners with international experts (Burundi).

- Engaged processes to strengthen national coordination mechanisms and national platforms through capacity assessment as a first step to optimise their functioning and fulfil their role as set out in the UN/ISDR Guidelines for national platforms and the HFA. Together with the UNDP-BCPR regional hub in Bangkok, the secretariat organized a sub-regional workshop in South-East Asia, to draw on lessons learned for further capacity assessments and joint work in support of national platforms.
- Helped develop funding proposals in collaboration with national platforms and/or Regional Organizations to strengthen national coordination mechanisms, including:
  - Developing a Caribbean Platform Programme with Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), Association of Caribbean States (ACS), Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO, also known as WHO Regional Office for the Americas), UNDP and others;
  - Carrying out an institutional analysis of national platforms in Africa, including with South-South cooperation initiated in 2007 in Madagascar and Senegal with potential development in 2008 with donor support from Germany;
  - Facilitating support for Asia/Pacific from Australia and European Commission-AIDCO (Aid Cooperation Office) to work with UN officially DP and other partners in Indian Ocean countries and in Asia/Pacific (see box 1); and
  - Continuing work and fundraising as coordinator of the Indian Ocean Consortium (on the Indian Ocean Tsunami Early Warning System) from the Bonn-based UN/ISDR secretariat office of the Platform for Promotion of Early Warning (PPEW) (see box 2).

At ISDR System level, the UN/ISDR secretariat promoted inter-agency cooperation on joint efforts to support national platforms. This was the first result of the ISDR System Joint Work Programme 2008-2009, and is one of the targets for the UNG/ISDR Task Team on DRR, as well as a result indicator of GFDRR Track II for country-level investments. The UN/ISDR secretariat worked to improve relationships in this area with UNDP-BCPR and UNDP-BCPR National DRR Advisers, with several UNDP country offices/Resident Coordinators, IFRC and WMO. WHO also started to advise their country offices and national counterparts in Health Ministries to take an active part in national platform activity.

One challenge is to maximize synergies among key ISDR System partners active in providing technical cooperation or national programme support with global and regional ISDR System guidance and thematic services. This challenge was identified by the Management Oversight Board and is a priority area for the UN/ISDR secretariat to address in 2008, in preparation for the second session of the Global Platform for DRR due in mid-2009.

### *Selected Region-Specific Achievements Focusing on National Actors*

#### *Africa*

Sub-regional activities helped promote national and partner initiatives in DRR in 2007. For example, a West African Ministerial Conference on DRR held in May 2007 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, reinforced national commitment to developing national platforms for DRR in Côte d'Ivoire and Cape Verde with UN/ISDR secretariat assistance and undertaking of a national programme on the UN/ISDR global campaign on disaster-resilient schools in Sierra Leone. It also catalyzed strengthening of UN agency partner (WMO) support for DRR in Africa through its appointment of a dedicated staff as a focal point for ISDR System partnerships in Africa.

## Box 1

**Building resilience to tsunamis in India, Indonesia, Maldives and Sri Lanka**

The UN/ISDR secretariat in 2007 launched a two-year initiative called Building Resilience to Tsunamis in the Indian Ocean, with support from the European Commission Europe Aid Co-operation Office (EC/AIDCO).

Covering four tsunami-affected Asian countries - India, Indonesia, the Maldives and Sri Lanka, the initiative is part of the secretariat's brokering function in support of HFA implementation in the context of multi-partner, multi-donor efforts to help establish a tsunami early warning system in the Indian Ocean.

The initiative seeks to: (1) strengthen national institutional capacity in DRR; (2) increase public awareness and knowledge of tsunami risk and DRR; (3) strengthen coastal communities' capacities for DRR and engage community-based organizations and NGOs; and (4) advance research and analysis on tsunami risk and impact and other related hazards such as earthquakes and cyclones.

Beneficiaries are: the DRR community; governmental and non-governmental disaster management and early warning institutions; development planners; coastal communities; NGO practitioners; school teachers and students; and ultimately people in the four tsunami-affected countries.

Activities, which are coordinated by the UN/ISDR-Asia/Pacific office, are carried out from 2007 to 2009 by several regional and national implementing partners, in coordination with governments and non-governmental stakeholders. National platforms (or mechanisms) for DRR play a major role in the implementation and sustainability of the initiative.

Even though it is still early to measure the impacts of the initiative, some accomplishments were already visible by late March 2008, including the following:

- Partners, including the UNDP Regional Centre and UNDP country offices, have fully taken on board the HFA as one basis of their work, not only in the context of the initiative but also in the regular work they do.
- Sri Lanka officially launched its national platform for DRR; Indonesia completed its national consultations for the launch of its national platform.
- Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed with seven agencies/organizations for implementing the specified objectives, and three more MoUs are in the pipeline.
- The UNDP Regional Centre and UNESCO/IOC (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission) agreed to develop a joint technical support to the development of an early warning system in the Maldives.
- India's Orissa State Government asked local governance institutions to make DRR an integral part of their mandate.
- India's Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA) resolved to support the initiative by covering staff costs until 2012; which helps ensure the sustainability of the EC contribution.

UN/ISDR Africa reviewed progress made by African national platforms and discussed how national platforms could play an active role in mainstreaming DRR into national poverty reduction plans and programmes, with World Bank support through the GFDRR. As many Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) in Africa came to an end and countries began revising their poverty reduction strategies, UN/ISDR Africa supported the integration of DRR into new PRSPs in Ghana, Madagascar, Nigeria and Senegal through various approaches such as carrying out high-level advocacy, facilitating partnership between national focal points for DRR and Finance Ministries, and providing advice on how to mainstream DRR into the new PRSPs.

*The Americas*

Currently, seven formal national platforms exist throughout the entire region of the Americas: three in South America (Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela); three in Central America (Panama, Costa Rica and Nicaragua) and the United States, while an additional five are currently being established in Argentina, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti and Peru, where UNDP also has programmes in place.

The Association of Caribbean States (ACS) and Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) support a plan for the setting up of national platforms in the Caribbean in an initiative - the Caribbean Platforms Programme (CPP)- launched at the June 2007 Global Platform session. UNDP, PAHO and other key partners will participate in this programme spearheaded by the UN/ISDR secretariat with CDERA and the Organization of American States (OAS) and developed over a period of 18 months. The CPP targets the strengthening of institutional structures and processes to integrate current disaster management offices' roles with those of development structures to advance the mainstreaming of DRR into

## Box 2

### CASE STUDY: The Indian Ocean Consortium - "Strengthening National Capacities for Tsunami Early Warning and Response Systems in the Indian Ocean"

The Indian Ocean Consortium (IO Consortium) was established during the Third International Conference on Early Warning held in Bonn, Germany, in March 2006, when eight international partners - the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), UNDP, WMO, UNEP, IFRC, OCHA and the World Bank - agreed with former US President Bill Clinton, then the United Nations Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery, on the establishment of a consortium that would support the development of national 'people-centred' components of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWS). UN/ISDR secretariat offices in Africa and Asia facilitated assistance in developing proposals related to early warning to be submitted to the IO Consortium. The IO Consortium's coordination and information sharing among partners are facilitated by the Bonn-based ISDR Platform for the Promotion of Early Warning.

Eleven countries were selected by the IO Consortium based on their submission of National Plans for the Establishment of Tsunami Early Warning Systems. In the Asian region of the Indian Ocean, the Governments of the Maldives, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Thailand became part of the Consortium activities. In the African region, such countries were the Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, the Seychelles, Somalia and Tanzania.

The UN/ISDR secretariat received financial support for the IO Consortium in 2007 from the Government of Canada and in May 2008 finalized an agreement with the United Kingdom. Main contributions come from individual IO Consortium partners' own funds and programmes to support IO Consortium requests. Consortium members are currently reviewing their national plans and identifying critical areas of need that require additional support.

Mauritius, the Maldives, the Seychelles and Sri Lanka organized national consultation meetings, involving disaster management centres, Government departments, in-country stakeholders and IO Consortium partners. In close dialogue with various Government departments, UNDP country offices and the National Disaster Management Centres/Offices identified national priorities for enhanced tsunami early warning systems, focusing on support for

specific areas of the systems. Project documents were drafted and implementation, coordinated by UNDP country offices, will be initiated throughout 2008. In addition, in some countries such as the Maldives and Sri Lanka, national consultations led to the establishment of government-led national platforms for DRR to strengthen national coherence among DRR initiatives and at the same time ensure in-country coordination of IO Consortium activities.

In coordination with UNESCO/IOC, WMO and national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHS) actively promoted and took action for ensuring the most effective use of the GTS (Global Telecommunication System) for the immediate support of the Interim Tsunami Advisory Information service in the Indian Ocean as well as for longer-term support for the Tsunami Warning System. GTS was upgraded in eight Indian Ocean countries, including Sri Lanka and the Maldives (with funds from USA), Bangladesh, Pakistan, Myanmar (with funds from the UN/ISDR Flash Appeal), Tanzania, Kenya and Madagascar (with funds from France) and Indonesia and Thailand (with funds from various bilateral donors).

UNESCO/IOC tide gauges were upgraded in the Maldives (in Male, Hanimaadhoo and Gan), Mozambique (in Pemba and Imhambane), Pakistan (in Karachi), the Seychelles (in Pointe La Rue) and Sri Lanka (in Colombo, BSH, Kirinda and Trincomale). In 2008, upgrades of tide gauges are envisioned in the Comoros, Madagascar and Tanzania (in Mtwara). Two tide gauge stations are planned to be installed in Mauritius (in Saint Brandon and Agalega). The Mauritius Meteorological Services, in collaboration with the UNESCO/IOC, took the lead to install a seismograph in the compound of the Meteorological Services in Vacoas to monitor earth disturbances on a 24 x 7 basis in early 2007.

OCHA provided support to requests of the Comoros, Madagascar, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Thailand for the training of school teachers and students to deal with natural disasters and/or strengthen national tsunami early warning and information sharing with local communities. In 2007, OCHA supported the development of community preparedness plans and training of Emergency Operation Centres staff in emergency management in the Maldives.

UNDP has been supporting the Maldives Government in finalizing a Disaster Risk Management Act. At the same time, equipment and training were provided to establish atoll and island-level emergency operations centres. After UNDP supported the creation of the first Risk Profile of the Maldives (2006), a risk assessment process is being undertaken for nine islands under the lead of the Maldives Ministry of Planning and National Development and Ministry of Environment - in cooperation with UNEP.

In the Seychelles, the funds provided will support the installation of a new tidal gauge, tsunami modelling training, a 'Calendar on Disaster Reduction for 2008' Project and provide the equipment for the future Emergency Operation Centre. Furthermore, OCHA supported the establishment of a National Disaster Response Plan by funding a consultant in the UNDP. A numerical tsunami modelling training session took place in the Seychelles from 21 to 28 January 2008. The high technical nature of the training was organized by UNESCO/IOC. Participants came from the Comoros, Somalia, Mauritius, Madagascar, Tanzania and the Seychelles.

In close dialogue with Sri Lanka's Government Departments and the UNDP Country Office, the country's Disaster Management Centre identified national priorities for enhanced tsunami early warning systems, focusing on support for capacity building for the country's National Disaster Warning Centre, for preparation and dissemination of tsunami warning response plans, as well as for incorporating disaster impact assessment criteria in the Environmental Impact Assessment process. The UNDP country office took on the role of in-country coordinator of the planned IO Consortium support.

In Thailand, a UNDP Regional Programme supported a series of national and provincial training events. The Programme focused on strengthening the ability of the staff of the newly-established National Disaster Warning Centre (NDWC) to deal with the media to enhance, for instance, the accuracy and credibility of warning messages and improve public awareness messages. Follow-up actions to this activity initiated by UNDP and the NDWC are being supported by OCHA under the IO Consortium mechanism.

sustainable development planning and policies. The programme has no funding yet.

UN/ISDR Americas developed closer working relations with UN Resident Coordinators' offices and UN Country Teams in Argentina, Chile, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Panama and Venezuela. Additionally, UN/ISDR Americas contributed to a review of the UNDAF (UN Development Assistance Framework) process from a DRR perspective in two countries (Ecuador and Haiti).

#### *Asia and the Pacific*

To strengthen Asian institutional capacity, the UN/ISDR secretariat, in close collaboration with its regional partners in Southeast Asia and Pacific (including a collaboration agreement with a UNDP-BCPR regional hub and UNDP country offices), worked together with India, Indonesia, the Maldives, the Philippines and Sri Lanka toward a regional strategy to strengthen multi-sectoral coordination mechanisms, strategic plans and/or progress monitoring capacities. (see Box 3)

In collaboration with the World Bank and GFDRR, the UN/ISDR secretariat organized a study tour in Turkey for 22 South Asian decision makers for experience sharing in disaster reduction and recovery among Government officials. The 'South Asia Seismic Risk Reduction Study Tour to Turkey' brought together South Asian decision-makers at Secretarial and Joint-Secretarial levels and from line ministries as well as decision makers at local

government level involved in disaster risk mitigation activities to share experience and lessons learned from earthquake recovery and reconstruction in Turkey. It provided them with hands-on experience of risk reduction tools and practices in Turkey and a platform for planning the way forward on seismic risk mitigation in the South Asia region. Topics explored included catastrophic risk insurance pooling, retrofitting, seismic-resistant engineering techniques, disaster education, etc. The challenge was to benefit from the experience and translate into national platforms in the participating countries. This will be explored further as a useful South-South cooperation model for other countries and regions.

A UN/ISDR secretariat senior advisor was engaged by UNDP Mongolia to help evaluate the country's three-year programme for national capacity development for disaster risk management. The evaluation resulted in a second phase of the programme.

#### *Europe*

Eight Governments informed the UN/ISDR secretariat about officially designated national platforms (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland). Additionally, seven EU Member States nominated their HFA focal points (Denmark, Finland, Greece, Lithuania, Malta, Portugal, Romania and the United Kingdom). Austria designated a national platform during the 1990-1999 UN International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) but no official designation has been made since the UN/ISDR

### Box 3

#### CASE STUDY: From national to local implementation of the HFA - Indonesia

The Indonesian initiative to prepare strategic local action plans for disaster risk reduction (DRR) in three districts affected by the May 2006 earthquake was the first attempt in the Asia/Pacific region to implement HFA priorities for action at local level. The lessons learned will be instrumental for processes under way in other countries in the region. The UN/ISDR secretariat, the UNDP Country Office in Indonesia and provincial, and district/city planning agencies (BAPPEDA) have jointly taken the lead in facilitating the local action planning in Central Java Province and the Special Region of Yogyakarta (also in Java). The strategic local action plans for DRR will provide one cohesive programme to bring together key local government offices, civil society organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders to link DRR issues directly with socio-economic development planning and policies. The local action plans will facilitate better coordination and management, as well as improve the efficiency of resource allocation to and their utilization in disaster management at provincial and district/city levels.

secretariat was established in the year 2000. In addition, Focal Points were nominated in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Iceland, Moldova, Monaco, Norway, Serbia, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Turkey. Italy and Norway are defining how they are going to set up their national platforms in 2008. While in Italy, this process was initiated by the Foreign Office in coordination with the Civil Defence Department; in Norway the driving force is

*IFRC, 2nd committee, 62nd GA, 29.10.2007*

*The Hyogo Framework also provided much more certainty about the role of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and the collaborative system of governments, international and non-governmental organisations, civil society and communities that it promotes. The emphasis on collaboration has made it possible for organizations like the IFRC to identify strongly with the ISDR system and to contribute proactively to achieving its priorities, as well as those of the Hyogo Framework.*

the Interior Ministry. Bosnia Herzegovina, Ireland, Moldova, Romania and Slovenia also indicated interest in establishing national platforms.

An informal network of national platforms in Europe is currently composed of Germany, France and Switzerland for exchange and collaboration. The Council of Europe and the Directorate-General for Environment and Directorate-General for Research in particular, were invited to key meetings of the network that included other UN agencies. The network contributed to the EU Green Paper on Climate Change to ensure linkages between DRR and climate change.

#### *West Asia and North Africa (WANA)*

By end of 2007, a number of Governments in the West Asia/North Africa (WANA) region initiated a process to establish national platforms which led to a fully operational national platform in Kazakhstan. The UN/ISDR secretariat followed up with other countries in the region, met with authorities and UN partners including with Tajikistan, Yemen, Egypt and Jordan.

The UN/ISDR secretariat continued working with the active Iranian national platform in promoting the Asian Seismic Risk Reduction Centre and awareness raising activities. One feature of the WANA region is that DRR is a relatively new paradigm in the region. Countries in the region already developed considerable disaster management capacities, but there is need and interest for developing multi-stakeholder and integrated mechanisms such as national platforms for DRR. One such example is Egypt, which has a strong national-governmental coordination mechanism supported by a UNDP programme: a national committee led by the Egyptian Cabinet Information and Decision Support Center.

In many countries of the region, National Societies of the Red Crescent are key partners in these tasks.

## Box 4

### CASE STUDIES: national platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

#### Sri Lanka

Highly exposed to several hazards, including floods, landslides, droughts, cyclones, and coastal erosion, it was the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami that exposed most strongly Sri Lanka's vulnerability to natural phenomena. Albeit a low frequency event, the resulting extensive devastation triggered a long process to revamp the national disaster management system. The enactment of disaster management related legislation, the 10 year "Road Map for Disaster Risk Management: Towards a Safer Sri Lanka", and the setting up of a distinct Ministry of Disaster Management and Human Rights (MDMHR) and a Disaster Management Centre (DMC) initiated in 2005/2006 were key milestones to spearhead the new orientation towards risk management. The welcomed national and international mobilization to cover most urgent needs in the tsunami aftermath also revealed however several challenges for Sri Lanka's DRM system. Unsatisfactory cooperation and sometimes unhealthy competition and duplication of activities, covering mostly accessible areas, exposed that better coordination among the many stakeholders was still missing. To address this issue and come to a better use of resources, Sri Lanka engaged in 2007 in a consultative process, which culminated in November 2007 in the setting up of the National Disaster Management Coordination Committee (NDMCC), which was formally declared a national platform for DRR in January 2008. With support by the UN/ISDR secretariat and the UNDP country office, this multi-sectoral national platform has since developed its terms of reference and is working on its annual work plan to accelerate implementation of DRM projects depicted in the Road Map.

#### Madagascar

It is conventional wisdom that much more difficult than setting up a new Platform, is the challenge to build and sustain it over time keeping members committed to engage in often demanding coordination processes. The Madagascar national platform/ CRIC (Comité de reflexion des intervenants en catastrophes) launched in 2003 has shown how to keep the momentum and make progress on a larger scale through joint action, instead of returning to sub-optimal individual initiatives with lesser impact. In late 2007 the national platform successfully completed a Contingency Plan to prepare for response to cyclones putting Madagascar's communities every year at risk. Following a highly participatory process involving its seven sectoral groups, the national platform

members – supported by UN-OCHA and other UN agencies - devised a whole set of sectoral preparedness measures, which were integrated in the comprehensive national contingency plan. They pre-positioned food and equipment and set up DRM committees at sub-national level, heavily invested in communication and ran a mock drill in hazard-prone areas. The effectiveness of these measures were proven in early 2008, when the losses due to three cyclones – including a terrible category four cyclone - were kept relatively low considering the high magnitude of the windstorms, much less than what would otherwise have to be expected considering Madagascar past experiences (the three cyclones left 93 persons dead while in the past an average of 100 casualties were the result of each single event). UN/ISDR supported a self assessment exercise of the national platform in early 2008.

#### Iran

Led by the National Committee on Disaster Reduction, Iran's national platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) was established in February 2005 and substitutes the National Committee that was acting under the Natural Disaster Research Institute of Iran and focusing on disaster risk mitigation. The Platform is hosted by the Interior Ministry, and consists of more than 20 Iranian line ministries and in-country institutions engaged in DRR. Its meetings are conducted on two different levels: (1) high-level meetings chaired by the Deputy Interior Minister; and (2) expert meetings chaired by the Secretary of the national platform. The meetings are not organized at fixed schedules but still convene on a regular basis. In total, seven high-level meetings and five expert meetings have been convened since 2005. The national platform coordinates national DRR-related activities, in close consultation with key in-country actors, along the lines of the HFA. It has developed a national biennial plan on hospital safety and a national biennial plan on overall HFA implementation throughout Iran.

#### Kazakhstan

Led by the Ministry of Civil Defence, the newly-established national platform of Kazakhstan builds on a well-established National Committee. Kazakhstan already has an adequate legislative basis and a long-term DRR strategy and implementation plan for 2007-2015. The national platform is multi-stakeholder with members from the public and private sectors. It meets regularly on a quarterly basis under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Emergencies.

#### *Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Reduction*

The UN/ISDR secretariat directly or indirectly supported the strengthening of DRR capacities and HFA implementation at all levels throughout many of its activities. More explicitly, the main initiatives supporting this result area were:

#### *Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI)*

Redesign of the inter-agency UN Disaster Management Training Programme (DMTP) into the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) was a joint effort with UNDP and OCHA. The UN/ISDR secretariat provided staff resource to CADRI, office space and technical advice to this process as of 2007. In addition, the secretariat provided technical content advice and contacts to other training and capacity building initiatives, which will be part of the network of CADRI. The key sponsor to CADRI during 2007 was UNDP. (see box 5)

Main results with UN/ISDR secretariat support include:

- Agreed scope and workplan 2008-2009 and working arrangements for CADRI between UNDP/BCPR, OCHA and the UN/ISDR secretariat: this resulted in better coordinated initiatives in support of capacity development among the three organizations, in particular in Africa, and in support of national platforms in Asia.
- Database of university and academic resources and programmers in support of DRR objectives: this initiative was also coordinated with the GFDRR and the World Bank Institute, as part of a joint effort to nurture an academic network for DRR.
- Initial agreements with the Swiss Global Risk Forum and Davos International Disaster and Risk Conference to work together in this area.
- Agreement with the Swedish Rescue Service to work together in a Swedish-sponsored disaster risk management training programme, to which the UN/ISDR secretariat and CADRI already contributed know-how and facilitation for the first training package offered to practitioners from developing countries.

## Box 5

### Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative

CADRI serves as the vehicle through which the three organizations – UN/ISDR secretariat, UNDP, OCHA – can achieve a more holistic and synergistic approach for DRR, thereby maximizing their ability to “deliver as One”.

CADRI aims to advance knowledge and practice for the development of sustainable disaster risk reduction capacities through:

- Supporting an integrated approach by the three organizations for enhancing the strategic role of UN Resident Coordinators for disaster risk management.
- Responding to selected requests for DRR capacity enhancement services for UN Country Teams and Governments.
- Collecting, developing and adapting materials, tools and methodologies to support the work of the three organizations, Governments and ISDR system members to develop capacity for DRR.
- Creation of a repository of information for the use of the three organizations for their UN system inter-agency work so it is more accessible and coherent.

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

- Advisory services and content orientation to several university initiatives and training programmers on DRR, including with GFDRR-sponsored training modules and workshops for Asia by Madras University (India), Middle East Technical University (Turkey) and Kyoto University (Japan).
- A joint programme among OCHA, UNDP-BCPR and the UN/ISDR secretariat to provide DRR training modules to UN Resident Coordinators/ Humanitarian Coordinators and UN Country Teams through existing training they have with OCHA and the UN System Staff College in Turin.
- Initial coordination with South Eastern Europe, Mozambique; Philippines and Uganda to prepare for training in 2008.

#### Regional-Level Capacity Building

- In the Americas, the UN/ISDR secretariat provided support to ILO/Delnet (a local development support programme of the ILO International Training Centre, ITC, based in Turin, Italy) to develop, within the context of the International Recovery Platform, a local-level capacity development programme in Spanish covering Latin America in its first phase. The programme is an eight-month distance learning course with two face-to-face sessions. It is managed and conducted by ILO-ITC/Delnet and the UN/ISDR secretariat provided advice on content and facilitated fellowships for students and partnerships with other organizations. The

programme links local development with risk management practices, recovery and strategic planning. Students from the first generation of the course came from 13 Latin American countries. They graduated in 2007 during a workshop in Nicaragua. Several of them have already been instrumental in promoting national platforms in their countries, developing local strategic plans in their territories and adapting HFA for local-level application in close consultation with UN/ISDR Americas. For the 2008 course, more than 200 students applied (32 were admitted) compared to 30 applicants and 20 admitted in 2007; which shows that the course is in high demand even though it costs US\$ 5,000 per student.

- UN/ISDR supported a new module in the Masters' degree programme of the University for Peace in Costa Rica on DRR, together with GFDRR and PAHO. In 2007 20 students undertook this course. UN/ISDR is seeking ways of expanding this experience to other regions through the University of Peace.
- UN/ISDR Americas subscribed an agreement with UNOSAT as part of a new alliance in Central America between UN/ISDR, ILO/ITC, FEMICA and UNOSAT. A first workshop was held in Nicaragua with 30 representatives from local level organizations and municipalities in applying free satellite information for disaster risk reduction planning and GIS systems.



#### 2.1.4. Partnership with the World Bank: Increasing Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction as Part of the Fight Against Poverty

One major achievement in 2007 was collaboration with the World Bank, which led to the launching of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) in September 2006. Positive outcomes of the agreement between the UN/ISDR secretariat and the World Bank in the context of the GFDRR include:

- UN/ISDR participation at various levels of the governance structures of the GFDRR to ensure coherence with ISDR System guidance and the HFA. Equally, the World Bank Vice-President for Sustainable Development is a member of the ISDR Management Oversight Board (MOB), and the GFDRR played an active role during the June 2007 first session of the Global Platform for DRR.
- Signs that additional World Bank investments are leveraged for DRR within poverty reduction strategies, health and education sector-wide budget support and for climate change adaptation.
- Enhanced regional inter-governmental and national Government engagement with the ISDR System in concrete DRR initiatives.
- Regional risk profiling and capacity assessments and mapping of progress against the HFA in Africa and West Asian/North Africa regions. The same initiatives are forthcoming in Central America, South Asia and East Asia.
- Increased national resources from Government budget and complementary investments by the World Bank in targeted risk mitigation projects (e.g. Caribbean catastrophe bonds to transfer local risk to the region and get reinsurance support; follow-up possibility in South Eastern Europe and South Asia).
- Focus on PRSPs in Africa to include DRR investments.

- Strengthened ISDR System regional outreach capacity: additional UN/ISDR human resources in Africa (to support the Commission of the African Union), in Latin America and the Caribbean, in East Asia (in support of ASEAN) and South Asia, in the Middle East and North Africa, and in Europe (focusing on South Eastern Europe).
- Joint sub-regional strategies and conscious pursuit of the DRR agenda with the World Bank and regional organizations.
- Thematic partnerships were fostered, including: (1) an emerging academic and research organization network with the World Bank Institute to enhance future human resource development and expertise in DRR; and (2) public-private partnerships together with the World Economic Forum.
- Support of risk identification and reporting capacities, including in collaboration with UNDP and UNEP for the Global Risk Identification Programme.

The remaining challenges, as identified by the GFDRR Result Management Council in early 2008, include better integration between the different tracks of the GFDRR, particularly for national programmers to benefit from guidance and strategic directions from the ISDR System and GFDRR Track I. Track I aims to support the UN/ISDR secretariat's role to foster an enabling environment at global and regional level, through coordination and methodology development (managed by the UN/ISDR secretariat); Track II focuses on national programmes (managed by the World Bank); the evolving Track III seeks to enhance recovery operations (technical assistance funds and call-on funds - managed by the World Bank). For full account of achievements and developments under the GFDRR in 2007, see GFDRR Annual Report 2007 at [www.gfdr.org](http://www.gfdr.org).

*Iran, High Level Event on Climate Change, 24.9.2007*

*Unfortunately, natural disasters, including those disasters related to climate change, are on rise in terms of frequency, severity, economic loss and human casualties. Hence, disaster risk reduction and building of resilience of communities and nations to disasters, as well as strengthening of national and regional capacities of the developing countries for rapid response remain one of the most important challenges we face at present and in the future.*

### 2.1.5. Resource Mobilization and Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction

A substantial increase in investment in DRR worldwide is required if the goals and objectives of the HFA are to be reached by 2015. There is evidence that the 2005 call of the UN General Assembly to address funding gaps has been heard by international and domestic financing instruments of both a public and private nature.

The launch of the GFDRR in partnership with the UN/ISDR secretariat and donors, at the initiative of the World Bank, is one such positive development (referred to above). Another is the development of new donor policies to increase funding for DRR. The United Kingdom, for example, commissioned studies on the need for integrating disaster reduction into European Union development policies. Countries such as Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland are currently discussing how to integrate disaster reduction into their development and humanitarian funding programmes. A number of developing countries are also making substantive investments in DRR, which has helped reduce disaster casualties. However, many more countries need assistance and guidance to address this challenge.

Indeed it is a challenge to assess the exact nature of DRR investment and needs, due, among other reasons, to the paucity of available data either for its range and volume, or for where such investment may be lacking. Access to such information would generate a powerful tool for policy and decision making. Furthermore, member states of the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) are additionally constrained in their ability to accurately report on the full spectrum of their investments in DRR by existing Development Assistance Committee (DAC) classification codes. The UN/ISDR secretariat discussed options for the revision of this classification with the DAC Secretariat and OECD Member States in 2007 with further resolutions being planned for 2008-2009.

Dedicated financing vehicles to facilitate targeted investments in DRR activities at national, regional and global levels do exist and include, inter alia, the UN TFDR, the World Bank GFDRR and UNDP Thematic Trust Funds. The first two funds accounted for some US\$ 30 million of explicit investment in 2007, with the GFDRR generating a further US\$ 45.8 million in pledges through to June 2010 (as of end 2007).

The UN/ISDR secretariat carried out exploratory work in setting up a disaster reduction resource tracking system to help monitor and motivate more investments. The development of a prototype of such a system, which poses several challenges in definitions and scope, is part of the UN/ISDR Workplan 2008-2009.

#### Box 6

#### CASE STUDY: Brokering funding for HFA implementation from African Union

Prompted by the work of the UN/ISDR secretariat, the Commission of the African Union (AU) allocated US\$ 90,000 of its own resources to the implementation of four DRR activities from its 2007 Priority Action Plan: supporting the establishment of nationally-led multi-agency DRR mechanisms in Malawi and Mozambique; supporting sub-regional intergovernmental agencies to develop a sub-regional DRR strategy aligned to the HFA in the ECOWAS (Economic Commission for West African States) sub-region; support to the revision of a sub-regional DRR strategy, in the SADC (Southern African Development Community) sub-region, to shift from a main focus on security to risk reduction along HFA priorities. The allocation of the AU budgetary resources to DRR reflects a shift from focusing only on post-disaster response activities, through its earlier Special Emergency Assistance Fund, to also promoting disaster mitigation and prevention.

## 2.2. Advocacy, Policy and Networking

The UN/ISDR secretariat's global advocacy strategy aims to proactively influence and engage with high-level decision makers in strategic positions for accelerating DRR commitments. The secretariat engaged actively with different stakeholder groups and targeted audiences to develop new channels for advocacy, policy commitment, public awareness raising, information sharing and knowledge exchange for DRR and the HFA. Linkages between climate change and DRR increasingly constituted a major focus for advocacy and policy development at the secretariat.

The UN/ISDR secretariat accompanied its advocacy efforts with the facilitation and production of a series of studies, good practices and other knowledge tools. These have the double purpose of raising awareness and commitment, while at the same time serve as guidance tools.

### 2.2.1. Advocacy, Public Awareness and Media Outreach

As identified as a priority for 2007, the UN/ISDR secretariat developed a communication strategy targeting relevant actors to influence necessary changes in policies, laws and practices for supporting DRR as a development issue; such actors being decision makers, leaders and others with responsibilities for changing practices on DRR. The communication strategy supports high-level dialogue at all levels to increase understanding of DRR as a development issue, while promoting and supporting concrete actions to ensure that DRR is considered in related thematic areas such as climate change. Such high-level dialogues included direct meetings of Heads of States and of national authorities, Ministers, heads of agencies and governing boards of partner organizations. Key advocacy efforts of the UN/ISDR secretariat in 2007 targeted the UN System itself, regional bodies as well as parliamentarians' networks and climate change negotiators. Other global advocacy efforts were oriented towards thematic areas for promoting the incorporation of DRR in their processes. Main results include:

Active briefings with the UN Secretariat in New York resulted in the UN Secretary-General's commitment to play a more active role in championing and advocating for DRR globally, as well as to mainstreaming DRR and the HFA into UN policies and programmes. The UN/ISDR secretariat is working closely with the office of the UN Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs to support follow-up on the implementation of these issues.

The UN/ISDR secretariat prepared talking points, presentations, press releases and briefings, to support advocacy work by UN officials and delegates in climate change and other related negotiations at the UN General Assembly, ECOSOC and other global forums. Results from this work are reflected under Section 2.1.1 in this Report in relation to work with the UN System. It includes the preparation of the UN Secretary General's annual Report on the Implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to the UN General Assembly, drawing on contributions from ISDR System partners and support to UN Development Group (UNDG), Chief Executives Board (CEB) and High-Level Committee on Programming (HLCP) processes.

A 'Global Network of NGOs for Disaster Risk Reduction' was launched, at the initiative of UN/ISDR secretariat, in early 2007, composed currently of 550 international and local NGO members. The Network is now led by TearFund. A group that was initially convened by the UN/ISDR secretariat now operates as the steering committee for the Global Network, and the Chair works closely with the UN/ISDR secretariat. Results through the Global Network include:

- The organization of side events during the Global Platform session in June 2007 and an NGO position paper to that forum which influenced the discussions and called for up-scaling of state commitment to invest in DRR, more proactive engagement with community-based organizations, and linkages between national and local implementation focusing on most vulnerable and marginalized population groups.

# World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2006-2007

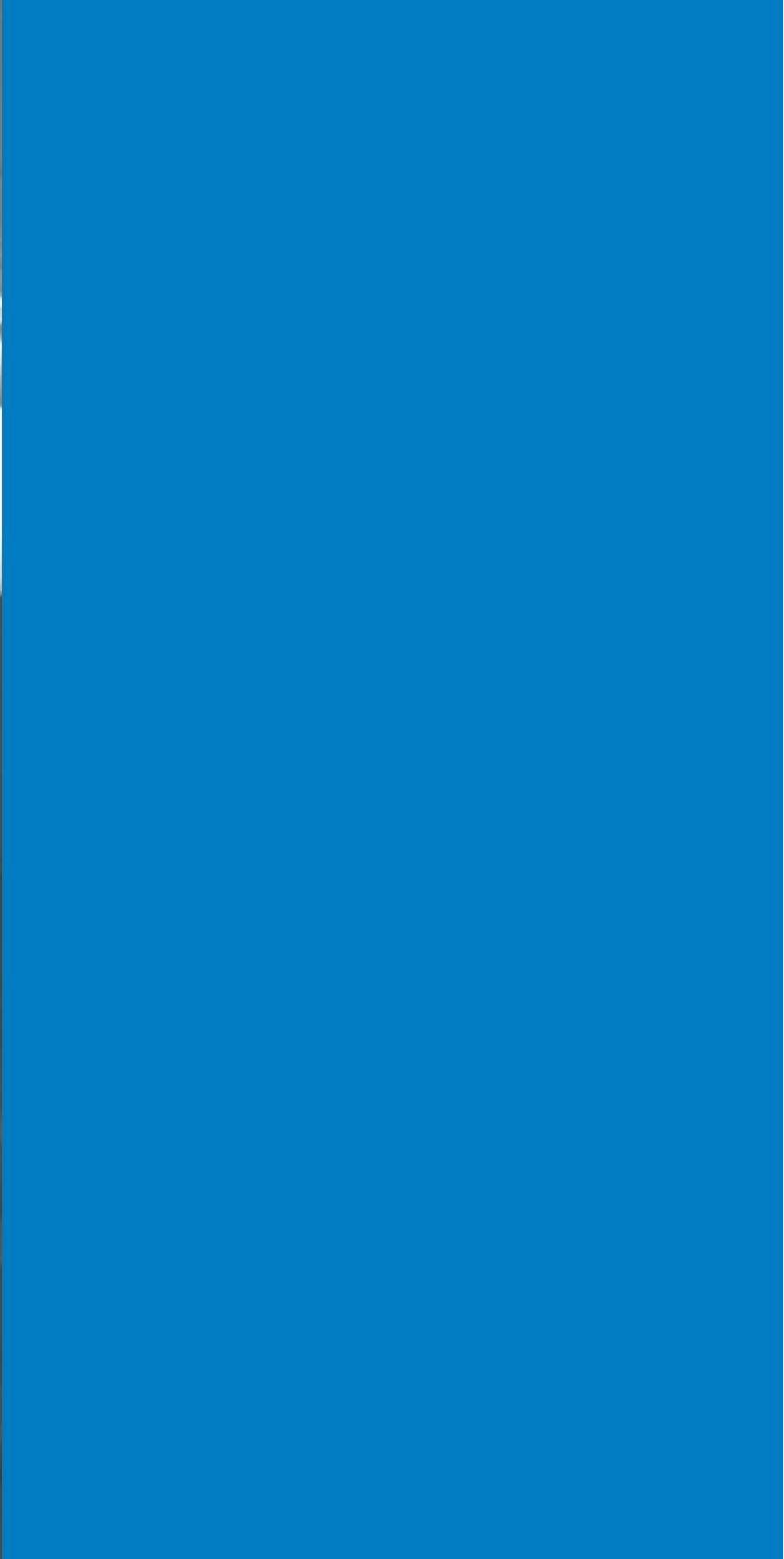
- To promote risk reduction in school curricula
- To promote building risk resistant schools.
- To ensure access to education in emergency situations

**“Disaster risk reduction  
begins at school”**



**and Painting Competition**

between 5 and 12 years old and you  
in Latin America and the Caribbean,  
you enter this competition |  
draw / paint about:  
•to prevent hazards at school  
•to prevent risks at my school”



- The publication of good practices in a document entitled *Building Disaster-Resilient Communities: Good Practices and Lessons Learned* in collaboration with the Bangkok-based UNDP Special Unit on South-South Cooperation. This publication showcases the essential roles played by NGOs in addressing disaster risk at local community level. It makes the case for increased community-oriented DRR action and was intended to raise interest in the subject from policy makers and other stakeholders.
- The UN/ISDR secretariat is currently finalizing a collection of NGO good practices related to DRR and poverty reduction. This exercise has the support of the NGOs' network.

The ISDR Partnership for Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction has already more than 80 active members. Good practices have been collected and published. UN/ISDR secretariat guidance and policy material for DRR have integrated gender perspectives. ISDR Secretariat hosted the ListServ set up by the already existing Gender and Disasters Network. The secretariat will work towards institutional partnerships to ensure that gender is mainstreamed into national and regional policies and projects for DRR. The initial results include:

- A UN/ISDR secretariat publication on good practices entitled *Gender Perspective: Working Together for Disaster Risk Reduction* which provides a collection of 15 practices, which highlighted the valuable contributions of women and underlined how gender issues were addressed in order to build resilience to disasters at community level;
- A compilation of good practices on 'Gender and Climate Change Adaptation' which is in the final editing process (for 2008);

- A Gender Experts' Meeting in Geneva, organized by the UN/ISDR secretariat with gender and DRR professionals from Governments, NGOs, UNDP country offices as well as representatives from academic and private sectors. The discussions focused on how to improve gender mainstreaming into DRR from different perspectives;
- Mainstreaming of DRR into current regional training courses organized on 'Making Governance Gender Responsive' in partnership with the Center for Asia-Pacific Women in Politics, based in the Philippines;
- The co-organization of a regional Training of Trainers programme on 'Mainstreaming gender into disaster risk reduction' in Sri Lanka with the UNDP country office, and Ministry of Disaster Management and Human Rights resulting in a draft module, which will be developed into training manual on Gendering DRR; and
- Policy Guidelines aimed at national governments to incorporate gender perspectives in national implementation of the HFA are being drafted.

An ISDR Media Network, organized by the UN/ISDR secretariat, involves journalists and the media as well as many public information officers from UN agencies, the IFRC and the World Bank. The nurturing of this network has led to an increasing number of reports in the media – global and national - on DRR issues (including interviews and tsunami follow-ups), which contributed to reducing future risks. The UN/ISDR secretariat has established solid and regular contacts with BBC and BBC Mundo, TVE (Spanish Television), CNN, the Asian Broadcasting Union, the European Broadcasting union, Al Jazeera, AlertNet Reuters, Radio France Internationale, Media 21 (Global Journalism Network) and many Asian, African and Latin American media organizations. Results include:



- Two video films produced and disseminated to national platforms, partners and selected broadcasting houses - one on the national platform of Madagascar and another on the use of the ISDR DRR library - in addition to BBC Earth reports from Vietnam and Honduras (the latter supported also by the GFDRR);
- Dissemination of more than 15 press releases, advocating DRR in the context of disasters, with an increasing pick-up by international and local media (including at least 35 follow-up direct TV, radio and press interviews of the Director of the UN/ISDR secretariat and other UN/ISDR secretariat staff in 2007);
- Media training for 80 journalists in four major events at the June 2007 first session of the Global Platform for DRR, in collaboration with Media 21 in Geneva, at the December 2007 UNFCCC (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) Conference of the Parties (COP13) in Bali, Indonesia, and in collaboration with the World Bank in Washington;
- Successful and widely quoted annual press briefings held in Geneva jointly with CRED (Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters) to release annual figures on disaster statistics (the 2006 figures were released in January 2007 and the 2007 figures in January 2008).

The UN/ISDR secretariat also initiated work with existing parliamentarians' networks in 2007 to promote DRR as an important part of the political agenda for development, the environment and climate change, and to start building a platform of parliamentarians to promote further legislative changes in these areas. The resulting increased number of DRR-aware legislators led to the following:

- GLOBE Europe (Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment) and GLOBE International (an international league of legislators) facilitated high-level dialogues amongst legislators on key

environmental issues and urged effective actions by Governments and private sector leaders. The UN/ISDR secretariat in 2007 promoted the integration of DRR into papers prepared by GLOBE International for a G8+5 Meeting.

- A consultative roundtable meeting on DRR and climate change adaptation with parliamentarians, after the G8 Meeting in 2007, was co-organized in Brussels with the UN/ISDR secretariat. It was an important step toward engaging with more parliamentarians on a regional and national level. The recommendations formulated contributed to increased visibility for DRR and the HFA in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process.
- The UN/ISDR secretariat has held its initial discussion with the Secretariat of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) on how to better engage parliamentarians on DRR through cooperation. UN/ISDR secretariat was invited to participate in the IPU's 118 assembly held in Cape Town, South Africa, where initial contacts were made with parliamentarians from Tanzania, China, Cambodia, Indonesia, South Africa, the Philippines, Liberia, Mozambique, Namibia, Gabon, Australia, Ghana and pan-Africa Parliament members. The UN/ISDR secretariat plans to strengthen the partnership with the Inter-Parliamentary Union in 2008-2009 to sensitize parliamentarians on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

### 2.2.2. Integrating Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

The UN/ISDR secretariat developed in 2007 an internal strategy to promote the integration of DRR and climate change agendas to help Governments and other parties to reduce climate-related vulnerabilities and risk, in line with the HFA. The secretariat continued its dual approach of: (1) maintaining an active involvement in ongoing UNFCCC and other climate change processes; while (2) pursuing the incorporation of climate change perspectives into DRR community and ISDR System processes, in particular via Global Platform sessions, the ISDR System Joint Work Programme, various thematic, regional and national platforms and the activities supported by the GFDRR.

*Maintaining active involvement in ongoing climate change processes: UNFCCC and IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)*

In 2007, the secretariat supported the UNFCCC Nairobi Work Programme on adaptation by providing substantive information contributions on climate-related risks and extreme events, as well as adaptation planning and practices based on the ISDR System's knowledge base and experience. It collaborated closely with the UNFCCC Secretariat in the preparation of related workshops and calls for action. The UN/ISDR secretariat also participated in the UNFCCC subsidiary bodies' meeting and the Conference of the Parties (COP-13) in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2007, where members of the ISDR Working Group on Climate Change and DRR held a side event organized by the secretariat to inform delegates on recent efforts to reduce climate-related disaster risk. The UN/ISDR secretariat also prepared position papers and inputs to speeches and organized, with Media 21 and during COP-13, a training event for journalists on this topic. The key result was:

- The Bali Action Plan, derived from COP-13, guides global climate negotiations over 2008–2009 for enforcement from 2012. It calls for disaster risk strategies, management and transfer; which represents a major success that will have positive repercussions for reducing disaster risks in the future. The secretariat and ISDR System partners played an important role in this respect through their inputs to the internal UN preparatory processes coordinated over 2007 by the UN Secretary-General, the UNFCCC secretariat and through interaction with UN Member States; the preparation of position papers; and other advocacy actions. The UN/ISDR secretariat has adjusted its internal strategy to support the Bali Action Plan process.

In 2007, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) launched its Fourth Assessment Report. Based on inputs that the secretariat had gathered from ISDR System experts on the IPCC drafts, the secretariat advocated for correct and comprehensive inclusion of DRR information before and during IPCC sessions. It also held press conferences and produced press briefings to highlight IPCC findings on aggravated risk. Results include:

- A call by the Global Platform for DRR for further assessment by the IPCC on the management of extreme events, and the proposal was formally submitted to the IPCC. Many States expressed interest in the development of such a report to assist States in identifying the most effective climate change adaptation activities.

The UN/ISDR secretariat continued to support efforts of the ISDR Working Group on Climate Change and Disaster Reduction. The Working Group met during the June 2007 and agreed on the following three priority areas: (1) gathering and sharing good practices in climate risk reduction; (2) providing policy guidance to UNFCCC processes on the post-2012 regime, further IPCC assessments, and the development of advocacy tools; and (3) developing methods for reducing the carbon footprint of ISDR System processes (see box). Results include:

- A set of good practices from the ISDR Global Network of NGOs was submitted by the secretariat to the UNFCCC Secretariat.
- The Working Group agreed on policy recommendations to UNFCCC Parties for the negotiation of the climate framework after 2012. These recommendations were discussed and widely endorsed at an ISDR side event in Bali.
- The Harbin Alliance, a group of DRR and climate change NGOs and networks operating in Asia, requested formal collaboration with the ISDR Working Group, and a first meeting of the two groups was held in Bali to identify priority actions and interests.

Additionally, the UN/ISDR secretariat collaborated in 2007 with many other agencies and Member States that play important roles in climate change adaptation by providing advice on policies, participation in think-tanks and co-organization of workshops, including with the World Bank and the GFDRR, GEF (Global Environment Fund), the European Commission, WMO, OCHA, IFRC, non-governmental organizations as well as reviewing policy papers such as the Green Paper of the EU and strategies in Latin America. Results include:

- A 'Stockholm Plan of Action for Integrating Disaster Risk and Climate Change Impacts in Poverty Reduction' emerged from a workshop organized jointly by SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency), the World Bank and the UN/ISDR secretariat under the GFDRR in Stockholm in October 2007. The workshop gathered 200 participants representing Governments, bilateral and multilateral agencies, civil society organizations, experts and researchers. The workshop discussed how to integrate natural hazard and climate change risks in a more effective way into national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies. The Stockholm Plan of Action has been cited in various forums and policy papers.
- The UN/ISDR secretariat co-organized a high-level policy dialogue with European parliamentarians in Brussels on climate change adaptation, which resulted in their recommendations to link DRR and climate change adaptation (see more under on parliamentarians' networks above).

#### Box 6



#### Greening the UN/ISDR secretariat

The UN/ISDR secretariat aims to achieve climate neutrality by the end of 2009 and integrate sustainable environmental actions into its daily work routines. The process to become climate neutral is embedded in a wider UN process for greening the whole UN System. The objectives of a climate neutral UN/ISDR are two-fold:

1. To reduce the environmental footprint of the UN/ISDR secretariat through adoption of sustainable management practices for its operations at the Geneva headquarters, in all the regional units and meetings and events organized by the secretariat; and
2. To 'lead by example' and provide a basis for raising awareness among UN/ISDR secretariat staff, UN/ISDR partners, similar organizations and Governments.

Achievements to date include: (1) the UN/ISDR Asia/Pacific office in Bangkok reports already being carbon neutral (including through tree planting); (2) 'green' focal point nominated in the secretariat; and (3) an initial contact established with green house gas (GHG) inventory experts.



### 2.2.3. The World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2006-2007: Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School

The World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2006-2007 under the theme 'Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School' was conducted by the UN/ISDR secretariat in close collaboration with UNESCO, UNICEF, ActionAid International, the IFRC, and ISDR Thematic Platforms on Knowledge and Education. The organization of events, media involvement, drawing contests, development of games and educational material, globally and in the regions, all aimed to inform and mobilize Governments, communities and individuals to ensure that DRR is fully integrated into school curricula in high-risk countries and that school buildings are built or retrofitted to withstand natural hazards. In addition to the Global Thematic Platform on Knowledge and Education, similar regional task forces were set up for Latin America and the Caribbean, and in Asia/Pacific. Results include:

- 55 countries that reported their active participation through awareness-raising activities and 22 countries that reported visible

success in school-oriented DRR initiatives. Among those initiatives, some made immediate impact - such as making schools safer (in districts in Gujarat, India, for example), developing educational and training material, introducing school drills and special education for teachers on DRR at schools.

- 96 case studies were collected as a result of the UN/ISDR secretariat's call for good practices, of which 38 were published in a publication entitled Towards a Culture of Prevention: Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School - Good Practices and Lessons Learned.
- The UN/ISDR secretariat produced, in cooperation with a number of experts and organizations, an online educational game called 'Stop Disasters' for students and children, to support the DRR learning process. Feedback shows that the game has proven to be successful, with thousands of hits on the website and numerous reviews in newspapers and other media. In addition to the original version in English, the game was launched in French, Spanish, Chinese and Russian in 2007 ([www.stopdisastersgame.org](http://www.stopdisastersgame.org)).

*ISDR World Disaster Reduction Campaign Topics*

*Disaster resilient schools and education (2006-2007)*

*Hospitals safe from disasters (2008-2009)*

*Urban risk reduction (2010-2011)*

*Homes safe from disasters (2012-2013)*

*Protecting the environment from disasters (2014-2015)*



#### Africa

- 14 countries carried out DRR-related activities on the International Day for Disaster Reduction in 2007.
- 7 countries took steps toward mainstreaming DRR into school curricula, including developing DRR textbooks, displaying DRR messages on school stationery and organizing school competitions or disaster preparedness drills (Burundi, Cape Verde, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania).
- Madagascar integrated DRR into school curricula as a result of the World Campaign.
- UN/ISDR Africa organized and facilitated the production of an Africa-specific educational booklet prepared by a team of African educators from the Ministries of Education of Madagascar, Tanzania, Djibouti, Mozambique, Comoros and Kenya.



### The Americas

- 18 countries raised awareness among school communities and developed school protection plans (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, USA, Venezuela).
- Costa Rica and Peru integrated DRR into their school curricula.
- 2 regional DIPECHO projects with UNICEF, in collaboration with the UN/ISDR secretariat, helped strengthen local capacities of Education Ministries and Civil Protection Departments, including in Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras and Panama.
- IFRC, Plan International and others worked closely with the UN/ISDR secretariat to develop the campaign, carry out a drawing contest and engaging a wide number of schools and Education Ministries in Latin America and the Caribbean. These initiatives produced many guidance documents and awareness-raising products and continued after the end of the campaign in late 2007.



### Asia and the Pacific

- 17 countries organized activities related to the theme of the campaign (Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, People's Republic of China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Nepal, Niue, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tuvalu, VietNam).
- National state programmes on DRR targeting school communities are under way in countries such as Iran, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines and Turkey.
- In Nepal, DRR-trained school students have become "risk reduction ambassadors" to other schools.
- In India, a single programme helped some 100,000 students and 2,500 teachers in 200 schools develop school disaster management plans.
- A large number of school safety initiatives were carried out in the Asia/Pacific region.



### Europe

- A number of countries marked the International Day for Disaster Reduction.
- DRR initiatives were undertaken in countries such as Austria, France, Hungary and Slovenia. In Armenia, a training project helped turn 375 school students, teachers and school principals into qualified DRR trainers.
- DRR initiatives targeting school communities are under way in countries such as Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Spain, France and the Czech Republic.



### West Asia and North Africa

- In Iran, all primary, secondary and high schools (over 130,000 schools) took part in its '8th National Drill' as part of its 'Annual School Earthquake & Safety Initiative'. Over 14 million school students participated.

### Challenges

Beyond the progress reported by countries in the World Campaign, the challenge remains to make these programmes sustainable and mainstreamed in educational agendas and to reach all disaster-prone countries. As shown by the Sichuan earthquake and Myanmar cyclone, school safety is not yet a reality: vulnerabilities are not yet assessed everywhere and continuation of activities is necessary. The UN/ISDR secretariat was asked by partners to maintain its role as catalyst in this topic beyond the end of the Campaign, which will be a challenge. UNESCO and UNICEF, committed to strengthen their leadership on the subject, with UNICEF gearing up with resources available.

The 48th session of the UNESCO International Conference on Education (Geneva, 24-28 November 2008) provides the opportunity for discussing DRR education and school safety in a specific session and side event. Furthermore, the ISDR Thematic Platform for Education and Knowledge continues to promote safer schools and education on DRR. The Thematic Platform members were involved in organizing over 20 events and participated in 50 conferences to promote the world Campaign's objectives in 2007. It also coordinated the development of guidelines on building safe schools and integrating DRR into school curricula.

### Box 7



### The 2008-2009 World Disaster Reduction Campaign: 'Hospitals Safe from Disasters: Reduce Risk, Protect Health Facilities, Save Lives'

In 2007, the UN/ISDR secretariat worked closely with WHO-HAC (Health Action in Crises), Geneva, and with WHO regional offices, in particular in the Americas (PAHO), in Eastern Mediterranean and in Asia, to prepare for the World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2008-2009 - 'Hospitals Safe from Disasters: Reduce Risk, Protect Health Facilities, Save Lives'. A joint strategy was agreed upon which includes a longer-term perspective of sustaining technical cooperation for safer hospitals as a core task of WHO. The UN/ISDR secretariat coordinated the preparation of the campaign information kits in several languages, prepared a portable exhibit for the campaign and a global launch event for January 2008 during the World Economic Forum in Davos with high-level personalities. Several launching events were also prepared with WHO in the regions in early 2008 ([www.unisdr.org/wdrc-2008-2009](http://www.unisdr.org/wdrc-2008-2009)).

Box 8



### The 2007 UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction

The Jury for the UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction 2007 selected Prof Yoshiaki Kawata of Japan, Director of the Disaster Prevention Research Institute of Kyoto University (Japan) and Director of the Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution, and Mr Tony Gibbs, a Director and partner in an engineering firm and a citizen of Grenada and Barbados, as the UN Sasakawa Award 2007 laureates.

The Jury recognized them for their lifetime accomplishments in the field of promoting and putting in practice DRR solutions, their dedication to the promotion of research-based improved practices, and their integrated and comprehensive 'joined up' approach. The Jury also recognized the efforts of these individuals - both trained as engineers - to communicate effectively on hazard and risk-related issues with a wide range of stakeholders, including natural and social scientists, journalists and the media, opinion shapers and decision makers, as well as the general public. Both laureates proposed to utilize the award to advance capacity building.

### 2.3. Strategic Information for Knowledge Management and Policy Guidance

Strategic guidance on many issues developed by the UN/ISDR secretariat, in collaboration with experts and other ISDR partners, is increasingly being used as 'standards' for DRR matters. The HFA is, of course, the landmark document. Equally, there is a growing use of ISDR terminology cited in many national plans, international documents and academic papers.

The UN/ISDR secretariat developed a number of key guidance documents in 2007, drawing on expertise from countries and agencies, to guide HFA implementation, the ISDR System at different levels, and for thematic or region-specific purposes.

#### 2.3.1. Monitoring, Assessing and Reporting on Risk Status and Progress in HFA Implementation

The HFA calls on the UN/ISDR partners and secretariat to prepare periodic reviews of progress and to identify gaps in implementation. In response, the UN/ISDR secretariat developed a reporting and assessment process, with initial guidance from the Inter-Agency Task Force in 2005, and subsequently by expert groups, online consultations and the June 2007 Global Platform session. In 2007, progress in this direction focused on:

- Improved procedures and standardized methodologies and tools for collecting, measuring and reporting on progress;
- The development of a database to capture and monitor information provided by countries on HFA implementation, building on existing initiatives and capacities of PreventionWeb, as an online reporting platform for DRR and the ISDR System (more details on PreventionWeb are provided below under 2.3.3.); and

- Global assessment reports.

Results include:

- Methodologies and tools: Dissemination of the 'Guidelines for Reporting on Progress on the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action: Measuring Progress in Disaster Risk Reduction' in early 2007 in preparation for the Global Platform session. A guidance document on indicators, benchmarks and reporting – 'Indicators of Progress: Guidance on Measuring the Reduction of Disaster Risks and the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action' - was finalized by the end of 2007.
- The web-based 'HFA Monitor': This tool is part of an online database for national progress reporting on HFA implementation - using learning from previous reporting processes and generic HFA indicators - developed in 2007 by the UN/ISDR secretariat as an ISDR System-wide monitoring and review mechanism. The tool has been available through PreventionWeb country pages since mid-May 2008. The first phase involved a pilot test conducted with 6-8 countries in early 2008 and ISDR System partners in the regions were engaged to assist countries in preparing their national reporting processes. These processes already proved to be useful to articulate multi-stakeholder national platforms and in support of national stock-taking and self assessment to identify gaps and set national priorities and goals.
- Global Review 2007 on DRR: The secretariat presented the draft Global Review 2007 to the first session of the Global Platform in June 2007. It combines an overview of current data on global hazard risk and vulnerability, as well as a trend analysis drawn from national reports on the status of HFA implementation. It concludes with a gap analysis identifying areas which need further



strengthening at country and regional levels for the ISDR System. Oxfam quoted statistics and analysis from the ISDR Global Review 2007 in its 2007 release 'Climate Alarm – Disasters Increase as Climate Change Bites'. The UNDP Human Development Report 2007 on Climate Change also quoted the Global Review 2007.

- The 'Global Assessment Report' (working title only) aims to be a periodic landmark report from the ISDR System to coincide with the sessions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. It will be based on thorough analysis of achievements and gaps, that will provide a foundation for future priorities and policy on DRR, as well as an important advocacy tool at all levels. It will be developed as an integral part of the ongoing progress monitoring by the ISDR System and UN/ISDR secretariat. UNDP contributes to the report with a Senior Advisor seconded to the UN/ISDR secretariat and with resources to GRIP (Global Risk Indexing Programme) and some country case studies. The World Bank contributes partial resources from the GFDRR, with technical guidance on risk update and with issue input papers. The 2009 edition of the Report will contain:
  - A global risk update, providing a baseline on patterns and trends in global disaster risk against which progress in reducing disaster risk can be assessed;
  - A thematic analysis of a key disaster reduction issue: the 2009 Report will focus on exploring the link(s) between disaster risk and poverty with due attention to urbanisation, climate change, economic growth, capacity development and gender issues; and
  - A review of progress in HFA implementation at all levels, identifying gaps and challenges and providing analysis and guidance for the establishment of ISDR System joint priorities.

The World Bank, the UN/ISDR secretariat, UNEP-GRID, UNDP and university partner institutions began the preparation of a global risk update in the latter part of 2007, based on previous work of the World Bank on 'hotspot countries' and UNDP/UNEP Disaster Reduction Index, among others. This update is carried out under the auspices of the UNDP-hosted Global Risk Indexing Programme (GRIP) and partly funded by UNDP. WMO and UNESCO serve as peer reviewers of hazard data. The work will be ongoing on receipt of funding against pledges. The update and creation of methodologies for hazard modelling includes six types of hazards (namely drought, cyclones, floods, earthquakes, landslides and tsunamis). A series of technical meetings to review interim results for most hazard types being examined were initiated in 2007 and will conclude by mid-2008. Online discussion forums have been set up on the PreventionWeb by the UN/ISDR secretariat since November 2007 for each of the hazard types for selected experts to advise institutions developing methodologies and updating relevant datasets on next steps. Simultaneously, a number of countries with support from UNDP in Asia and Latin America are developing 'case studies' of how risk trends analysis can be usefully applied across national and regional risk contexts with NGO involvement.

The second component of the Global Assessment Report 2009 consists of a thematic analysis of links between poverty reduction and DRR practices. Many technical institutions, the World Bank and UNDP contribute with in-depth studies and issues papers focusing on different angles of this theme.

The third component will draw on national, regional and thematic reporting from national platforms (using the HFA Monitor tool), thematic ISDR platforms and the work of the UN/ISDR secretariat and the ISDR System Joint Work Programme. Distribution of tasks was agreed upon by the different partners in 2007 as well as agreements with them on their contributions.

## Regional review processes in 2007

UN/ISDR secretariat regional teams facilitated analysis of DRR capacities and organized and supported regional consultations, partly supported by the GFDRR.

In [Africa](#), the risk reduction status report was ready for publication and provided a first comprehensive description of the current disaster risks in the region as well as a description of the current institutional arrangements and capacity for disaster risk management. It also estimates key institutional capacities and financing gaps at country and regional levels and presents a review of good practices in DRR across the region. The status report serves as a benchmark by countries and development partners.

In [Asia/Pacific](#), the UN/ISDR secretariat supported the ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) secretariat in compiling a regional analysis of DRR implementation in Southeast Asia and supported ASEAN member states in preparing national reports. This process also included a joint UN/ISDR, AUSAID (Australian Agency for International Development) and UNESCO/IOC (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission) assessment mission to review the

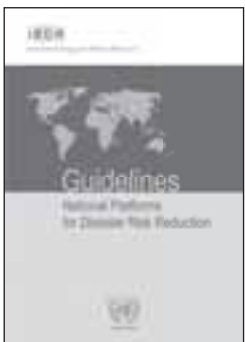
capacity of the Government of East Timor in DRR and tsunami early warning system (TEWS). Subsequent recommendations were presented to the Government of East Timor. A Baseline Status Report on Disaster Reduction in Asia and Pacific, designed to support regional and national resource centres, was drafted in 2007 and a final revised draft will be ready for the Asia Ministerial Conference on DRR in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 2008. The report, developed with GFDRR funding together with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), features a collection and analysis of regional data on hazards, vulnerabilities and DRR measures. The report covers approximately 32 countries in East Asia and Pacific, West and Central Asia, Southeast Asia and South Asia. It provides a benchmark against which partners and countries can monitor, assess and develop indicators for the status of DRR in the region at the start of the HFA decade.

From the [Americas](#), a first regional report and comprehensive risk and action matrix was tabled at the Global Platform in June 2007, compiled by UN/ISDR Americas. It draws from contributions of sub-regional organizations and forums in Central America and the Greater Caribbean.

In [Europe](#), the UN/ISDR secretariat, in collaboration with the German national platform (DKKV), prepared a progress overview report for Europe focusing on institutional frameworks and national platforms in Europe. In addition, with GFDRR support, consultants prepared a 'South Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Initiative: Risk Assessment for South Eastern Europe Desk Study Review'. While having some methodological challenges compared to GAR methodology, this report serves the region by providing a risk base line to work from.

In [West Asia and North Africa](#) (WANA), the UN/ISDR secretariat, in partnership with the World Bank, initiated a preliminary regional stocktaking of natural hazard risk and disaster management capacity in the Middle East and North Africa in early 2007. This included a regional review of hazards and risks in the region as well as a Middle East and North Africa Regional Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction and Natural Hazard Risk Management held in Cairo from 18 to 21 April 2007. The outcome of the regional review, which was presented to the Cairo Workshop as well as to the first session of the Global Platform, served as input to the Global Review 2007 and reflected the overall picture of hazard risk and DRR in the region.

### 2.3.2. Generating and Documenting Knowledge for Policy Guidance



On the initiative of John Holmes, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Chair of the Global Platform, an "Assessment on the Economics of Disaster Risk Reduction" has been commissioned jointly by the World Bank and UN/ISDR secretariat and supported by GFDRR. The assessment aims to evaluate economic arguments related to DRR through providing an analytical, conceptual and empirical examination of related themes. The assessment intends to provide effective policy guidance for disaster risk management to ensure development gains in low and middle-income countries prone to disasters. The UN/ISDR secretariat prepared for the consultations and initial draft outlines of the study in 2007, created a workspace on PreventionWeb to support the assessment, collected relevant literature in the workspace, and established a relationship with partners such as IIASA and CRED (Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters). The World Bank identified the lead economist, who was engaged in January 2008. Many high-profile economists are associated with the assessment. The economic assessment will also draw on relevant studies prepared for the Global Assessment Report 2009 and will be released in the latter part of 2009. Interim results include the results from two seminars exploring the economic challenges for the impact of climate change and links to DRR conducted at the World Bank in early 2008.

Related to the same subject, the UN/ISDR secretariat commissioned a working paper on costs and benefits for disaster reduction for the Global Platform session (see [www.unisdr.org/WCDR](http://www.unisdr.org/WCDR)).

In 2007, the UN/ISDR secretariat also contributed to a book on economic impact from disasters coordinated by CRED, which will be published in 2008. This book mainly targets students and an academic audience and is complementary to the economic assessment. In summary, the UN/ISDR secretariat produced a series of guidance

material and policy notes to orient the main priorities of 2007 (some of them referred to elsewhere in this Report) as outlined below and available on the UN/ISDR secretariat's web site ([www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org)):

- 'Towards an ISDR System Planning Framework': a document prepared for clarifying roles and relations among all the whole components of the ISDR System in planning processes and for supporting the coordination role of the Global Platform. This served as the basis for the ISDR System global-level Joint Work Programme process with the ISDR Inter-Agency Group.
- Policy Note on Thematic Platforms to set out criteria for the induction of entities and to outline the process for initiating and maintaining thematic platforms.
- A consultation version of a draft guidance note on 'Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into CCA (Common Country Assessment)/UNDAF' developed with UNDP and other agencies, and shared with key partners for supporting the efforts of the UN for mainstreaming DRR at country level (draft 2006 prepared jointly with UNDP).
- The 'Guidelines for national platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction', revised at a meeting in Pretoria, South Africa, in October 2006 by 14 national platforms and other national coordinating authorities from all continents, with participation from UNDP-BCPR and OCHA that were gathered for the first time. The UN/ISDR secretariat translated, published and widely disseminated the guidelines into the six UN languages, with Government support.
- 'Words into Action: A Guide for Implementing the Hyogo Framework' launched at the June 2007 Global Platform session as HFA implementation guidelines for UN Member States. The UN/ISDR secretariat finalized this policy guidance document in



English, and translated it into Spanish with the help of the Spanish Foundation DARA in 2007, after feedback and consultation process with stakeholders and experts. Each chapter of the revised Guidelines give practical advice on how to manage 22 selected tasks grouped around the five priorities for action of the HFA. Each chapter also includes a set of suggested indicators. The secretariat distributed the guidelines to National Governments worldwide, to HFA focal points and to national platforms for DRR.

- 'Indicators of Progress: Guidance on Measuring the Reduction of Disaster Risks and the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action' (only English in its first version) to help national, regional and international actors measure progress in HFA implementation and DRR. In addition, an expanded and complementary guide on preparedness indicators was developed by an IASC task group, supported by OCHA and the UN/ISDR secretariat, and will be published in 2008.
- 'Drought Risk reduction Framework and Practices: Contributing to the implementation of the Hyogo Framework' was launched in a preliminary version for the Global Platform session as a guide for understanding better drought patterns, vulnerabilities to drought and options to address drought. It discusses drought policies and governance, risk identification and early warning, education and awareness-raising options, and is illustrated with practical examples and background information. A network of drought experts contributed and a revised version will be published in 2008, together with two complementary publications on good practices and policy guidance, in collaboration with the China-based International Drought Reduction Centre.
- Several concept notes and input papers on climate change for disaster risk reduction and climate change in support of the UNFCCC processes (see previous section on climate change).

### *Regional publications and guidance notes*

The region-specific ISDR Informs magazines were produced and disseminated once per year in Africa and Asia/Pacific in 2007, while the Americas published their regular two issues per year.

In Asia/Pacific, a series of 'Technical Notes on Hazard and Disaster Risk Management' was prepared in 2007, targeting policy makers on and practitioners of sustainable development. The technical notes highlight a number of key messages to influence disaster risk-sensitive decision making and they will be published in 2008. UN/ISDR Asia/Pacific spearheaded the preparation of the notes in partnership with experts from Kyoto University (Japan) and ADPC, together with the GFDRR and World Bank team in Southeast Asia. These may be adapted to other regions and sectors in 2008-2009, particularly to target climate change adaptation.

In Africa, information products and background papers for regional meetings were oriented to support advocacy and guidance efforts in priority themes for the region, in particular related to drought, coastal hazards and education. Some of these will be published and disseminated in 2008.

UN/ISDR Americas successfully supported the GFDRR and CEPREDENAC to develop the conceptual basis for a Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment (CAPRA) tool through workshops, as part of a sub-regional regional consultation. CAPRA promises to develop into a powerful tool to guide decision makers on public investment for DRR in 2008-2009. The first phase will only focus on Nicaragua.

A new book on the 'state of the art' of DRR in the region, presented as a toolkit for Spanish-speaking Latin America - 'Disaster Risk Management Today: Global Contexts, Local Tools' – was published. It is available on UN/ISDR Americas' web site ([www.eird.org](http://www.eird.org)).

In Europe, several base studies were prepared for South Eastern Europe in 2007 in collaboration between the UN/ISDR secretariat and the World Bank, as an initial phase of the regional programme of the GFDRR in the region. They are available on the regional UN/ISDR website ([www.unisdr.org/europe](http://www.unisdr.org/europe)):

- 'South Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Initiative: Risk Assessment for South Eastern Europe Desk Study Review';
- 'Mitigating the Adverse Financial Effects of Natural Hazards on the Economies of South Eastern Europe: A Study of Disaster Risk Financing Options'; and
- 'Strengthening the Hydro-meteorological Services in South Eastern Europe' (with WMO).

In West Asia and North Africa (WANA) focus in 2007 was given to basic ISDR and DRR material to be translated and disseminated in Arabic. A DIPECHO funded project for Central Asia also provided for the development of school manuals and stories in Russian prepared on the major hazards in that region addressing primary school.

### 2.3.3 An Information Platform for Disaster Risk

Reduction and the ISDR System: PreventionWeb One priority since long for the UN/ISDR secretariat has been to provide an effective information platform for DRR practitioners and members of the ISDR System, with special relevance for national actors. Following several user surveys and in-house research, a prototype of PreventionWeb ([www.preventionweb.net](http://www.preventionweb.net)) was launched in June 2007. It aims to provide a common platform for institutions to get connected, exchange experiences and share information on DRR. The system is designed to allow distributed data entry as well as to provide options for content syndication. It is an 'information platform' – an online facility making existing knowledge more widely available and accessible worldwide and providing workspaces for new knowledge brokering, and development and networking.

The site is updated daily, with partners at local, national and international levels being able to use the architecture and list services in an interactive way. A set of databases with expertise, contacts and initiatives is the backbone of the site, as well as country profiles and direct links. It contains news, DRR initiatives, event calendars, online discussions, contact directories, policy and reference documents, training events, jobs, terminology, country profiles, fact sheets as well as audio and video content.

Future functionality includes providing web-based support to established and emerging networks. The development of the site included a detailed study of

user tasks of DRR practitioners as well as national focal points. Information architecture development included several sessions of usability testing with stakeholders. The ISDR virtual library and resource centre are linked to PreventionWeb.

The UN/ISDR secretariat web site ([www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org)) remains the institutional site and is being redesigned in 2008 based on user surveys and compatibility with PreventionWeb. PreventionWeb will feature as the main portal for the ISDR System and generally for DRR practitioners, while it will include the UN/ISDR secretariat's web site with UN/ISDR-specific information and archives. Two sites will be fully integrated by common search engines and databases.

#### *Regional information clearinghouse*

As part of the 2006-2007 plans, the secretariat was committed to providing regional information clearinghouse functions to:

- Facilitate identification and exchange of good practices and lessons learned from national implementation;
- Conduct public awareness activities; and
- Maintain regional web information (as part of PreventionWeb) for increasing regional access to regional information and related knowledge on DRR.

All UN/ISDR regional units are actively contributing to PreventionWeb - while also keeping their regional UN/ISDR sites - to post information on

events, publications and organisations. Three UN volunteers were recruited to start, in 2008, to support information collection in Africa, the Americas and Asia/Pacific. In Asia Pacific, an agreement to institutionalize PreventionWeb in the IFRC is also under way. In addition, each UN/ISDR regional unit maintains its own regional website sites/pages: [www.eird.org](http://www.eird.org) (for the Americas); [www.unisdr.org/asiapacific](http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific) (for Asia/Pacific); [www.unisdr.org/africa](http://www.unisdr.org/africa) (for Africa); [www.unisdr.org/europe](http://www.unisdr.org/europe) (for Europe); and [www.unisdr.org/wana](http://www.unisdr.org/wana) (for the West Asia/North Africa region).

In Latin America, the UN/ISDR regional Unit is developing the 'HFApedia' to support exchange of information and reporting processes on DRR and HFA implementation within the region. HFApedia's main portal (<http://www.eird.org/hfa.html>) is now ready to be promoted as the gateway to HFApedia (for both English and Spanish systems). It is functioning as an interactive system for facilitating information exchange and improving reporting. A tailored-made section for UN Resident Coordinators (RCs)/UN Country Teams (UNCTs) was also developed on the regional pages of the web site.

The UN/ISDR secretariat and PAHO continue to be the most active members in support of the services of the Centre of Disaster Information for Latin America and the Caribbean (CRID), hosted by the National Emergency Commission of Costa Rica (see [www.crid.or.cr](http://www.crid.or.cr))

## Box 9

### PreventionWeb Workspaces in Support of ISDR System Knowledge Development and Networking

The UN/ISDR secretariat is actively engaged in supporting several thematic platforms and networks in disaster risk reduction. The secretariat is providing online communication tools such as facilities to host e-mail groups (listserv) and online workspaces with collaborative tools to facilitate interaction among network members. There are more than 20 e-mail groups - with approximately 2,500 subscribers in various thematic areas - currently hosted by the secretariat through PreventionWeb ([www.preventionweb.net](http://www.preventionweb.net)). Statistics show that more than 28,000 messages are exchanged between members every month. Most of the e-mail groups are owned and managed by partner organizations. Some of the e-mail groups have very large participation and are extremely active in their day-to-day communication, in particular during the aftermath of major disasters. This is currently happening to promote Safer Schools programming in China following the Sichuan Earthquake, and in Myanmar following the Tropical Cyclone Nargis.



Some of the notable networks are the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative with 124 members; Children, Youth and Disasters Network with 275 members; the Thematic Platform on Knowledge and Education Network with 775 members; Gender-and-Disaster Network with 574 members; the Global NGO Network with 571 members; and the recently established Health and Disaster Reduction Network with 88 members.

In addition, PreventionWeb also supports the ISDR System's own working processes, such as a working group on economics of DRR; several workspaces for the Global Assessment Report 2009 related to different hazards and disaster risk analysis; several peer scientific review groups on earthquakes, floods, cyclones, drought, landslides and tsunamis supported by the UN/ISDR secretariat; a workspace for the ISDR Inter-agency Group in support of joint work programming for the ISDR System; a workspace for the ISDR Support Group; one for the Thematic Knowledge and Education Platform interim organizing committee; and one for public-private partnerships for DRR.

Also in 2007, information management tools and technical assistance on web development were provided into several thematic platforms, such as for the International Recovery Platform in Kobe.



ATELIER NACIONAL PARA LANÇAMENTO DA  
"PLATAFORMA NACIONAL PARA  
REDUÇÃO DOS RISCOS DE CATÁSTROFES"

PRAIA, 27 - 28 DE NOVEMBRO DE 2007

Sra. JEANNE GOUBA

MINISTRO DA  
ADMINISTRAÇÃO INTERNA

Sr. ALCIDIO TAVARES

Sra. NOROARISOA

Sr. LARS BERND



# Main Challenges

## 3.1. 'Conflicting' Expectations from UN/ISDR Secretariat

One major challenge for the secretariat that remains is the ability to prioritize action in view of increasing expectations and demands from UN Member States and partner organizations. The UN/ISDR secretariat management has made great efforts to focus the work on the main expected outcomes, especially in nurturing growing partnerships in the ISDR System. This means that the secretariat itself is increasingly producing fewer direct results, while increasingly influencing results among partners. However, the expectations by stakeholders and donors are also that UN/ISDR secretariat is able to deliver services that are first and foremost assisting vulnerable countries to become more resilient, as set out in the HFA.

## 3.2. Information and Knowledge

The secretariat has an undeniable comparative advantage in acting as a source for information and knowledge, not least for use at country level by national authorities and ISDR System partners, including UN Country Teams. Some of this information and knowledge is developed by the secretariat itself, but in most cases the secretariat acts as the link between sources and users. To fulfil this role more effectively, further clarity is needed on the following: the precise beneficiaries of the work in this area; which information products and services need to

be produced by the secretariat and which should be provided indirectly through linking with other partners; the production of global as compared to region-specific products, and effective dissemination and accessibility of this information through different means and languages. The secretariat is currently developing a more focused role for itself in this area and is identifying a refined set of information and knowledge products, particularly to meet urgent needs for national actors.

## 3.3. Supporting National Efforts

ISDR System partners have made the commitment to help countries, particularly the most vulnerable ones, implement the Hyogo Framework. Nevertheless, there remains a major gap between the expressed goodwill and action on the ground. While not an implementing agency, the UN/ISDR secretariat has an obligation to do what it can to catalyze and facilitate actions on the ground by other ISDR System partners to achieve this objective. Yet, there is at present a lack of clear understanding among various ISDR System partners on the role of the secretariat at country level. Mindful of its mandate and comparative advantages and those of other ISDR System partners, the UN/ISDR secretariat is re-assessing its approach to facilitating support for national actors.

*A key objective should be to help governments to put in place the critical mass of conditions which will enable a DRR "movement" to take root and move forward the implementation of the Hyogo Framework in a sustainable manner. This includes development and integration of DRR in national policy/legislation, establishment of a national platform and coordinating authority, a strategic national action plan for DRR, and a country-owned system to assess disaster risk and monitor and report on HFA implementation.*

### 3.4. Resource Mobilization

A key role of the secretariat is to facilitate resource mobilization for the ISDR System as a whole. This includes funding for the ISDR System Joint Work Programme. While donors have expressed appreciation for the Joint Work Programme, there have as yet been few increased resources made available to participating ISDR System partners. Yet, this is essential if the Joint Work Programme is to meet its full potential to increase the impact of the ISDR System in supporting countries to implement the HFA. At the same time, the UN/ISDR secretariat needs adequate resources to fully implement its workplan. While donor funding for the secretariat increased substantially in 2007, there still remain difficulties in ensuring smooth operations due to funding limitations, since a large portion of the funds are earmarked and do not permit use for core functions of the secretariat. Moreover, a more coordinated approach is needed for donor funding of key ISDR System partners, among them the UN/ISDR secretariat, UNDP and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

### 3.5. Strengthening Results-Based Management

In 2007, the secretariat had to strengthen its results-based management approach, building on good practices of other UN bodies. This included preparation of a structured, results-oriented workplan for 2008-2009. Efforts in the direction of strengthening RBM are under way in the secretariat in 2008 as indicated in section 1.1. They include the development of a monitoring and evaluation framework and periodic internal performance reviews. Reporting is being improved. The secretariat will be providing regular updates on the status of implementation of its workplan to donors and all Member States during the biennium and an Annual Report.

## Box 10

**The guiding principles for the UN/ISDR secretariat Workplan 2008-2009, drawing on the lessons learned, are:**

- To provide an enabling environment to advance DRR understanding and implementation at global, regional or sub-regional levels, as set out in the HFA.
- To promote national ownership and leadership for the processes at highest levels and with development objectives (national platforms), while strengthening the participation and leadership of regional inter-governmental organizations (regional platforms).
- To provide effective follow-up to priorities identified by the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and UN General Assembly in the implementation of the HFA. In 2008-2009, these include developing guidance on:
  - Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction
  - Hospitals Safe from Disasters campaign
  - Urban risk reduction and local government engagement
  - Gender concerns
  - Economic study building the case for investing in disaster risk reduction
  - Training components and modules on 'how to materialize' the Hyogo Framework
  - Standardized use and understanding of concepts
  - Regional risk updates and stock taking on risk reduction
  - Monitoring processes in place regionally and globally;
  - The Global Assessment Report 2009
  - A functional PreventionWeb and collection/sharing of good practices
- To ensure better coordination, clarify roles and responsibilities among ISDR partners, while strengthening the ISDR System joint work programming and progress reporting processes based on Hyogo Framework priorities for action.
- To mobilize resources and predictability for the UN/ISDR secretariat workplan and for the ISDR System Joint Work Programme, while providing the opportunity for donors to lower transaction costs through an effective funding mechanism and providing complementarity with other funding sources.

# Acronyms

ACS	Association of Caribbean States	DG-RTD	Directorate General, Research (EC)	IAP	ISDR Asia Partnership on DRR
ADPC	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center	DIPECHO	Disaster Preparedness Programme of DG-ECHO	IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ADRC	Asian Disaster Reduction Center	DKKV	German National Platform (Deutsches Komitee Katastrophenvorsorge e.V.)	IATF	Inter-Agency Task Force (ISDR)
AIDCO	EuropeAid Cooperation Office (EC)	DMC	Disaster Management Centre	ICDRR	International Centre for Drought Risk Reduction
APEC	Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation	DMTP	Disaster Management Training Programme	ICHARM	International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Assessment
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations	DPPI	Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative	ICL	International Consortium of Landslides
ASRRC	Asian Seismic Risk Reduction Centre	DRM	Disaster Reduction Management	IDRC	International Development Research Centre - Canada
AU	Commission of the African Union	DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	IEWP	International Early Warning Programme (PPEW)
AUSAID	Australian Agency for International Development	ECO	Economic Cooperation Organization	IFI	International Flood Initiative (UNESCO/WMO)
BAPPEDA	UNDP Country Office in Indonesia and provincial, and district/city planning agencies	ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council	IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
CADRI	Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (UNDP, OCHA, UN/ISDR)	ECOWAS	Economic Commission for West African States	IIASA	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
CAPRA	Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment	EMI	Earthquake and Megacities Initiative	IIED	International Institute for Environment and Development
CAPRADE	Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Assistance	EU	European Union	ILO	International Labour Organization
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation	EU-CORD	European Union – Christian Organisations in Relief and Development (network)	IO	Consortium Indian Ocean Consortium
CDERA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	IOTWS	Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System
CEB	Chief Executive Board	FEMICA	Federación de Municipios del Istmo Centroamericano	IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
CEPRENAC	Central American Coordination Center for Disaster Prevention	GEF	Global Environment Fund	IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
CIIFEN	International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon (Centro Internacional para la Investigación del Fenomeno de el Niño)	GEO	Group on Earth Observations	IRI	International Research Institute for Climate and Society
COP	Conference of Parties	GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery – World Bank	IRP	International Recovery Platform
CPP	Caribbean Platforms Programme	GHG	Green House Gas	ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
CRED	Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters	GLOBE EUROPE	Global legislators Organisations for a Balanced Environment	ITC	International Training Centre (ILO)
CRID	Centre of Disaster Information for Latin America and the Caribbean	GFMC	Global Fire Monitoring Center	ITU	International Telecommunication Union
DAC	Development Assistance Committee of OECD	GRIP	Global Risk Identification Programme	IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
DG-ECHO	Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid (EC)	GTS	Global Telecommunication System	JPO	Junior Professional Officer
DG-ENV	Directorate General, Environment (EC)	HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters	LAS	League of Arab States
		HLCP	High-Level Committee on Programming (UN)	MDMHR	Ministry of Disaster Management and Human Rights



MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders	UNCRD	United Nations Centre for Regional Development	UNOSAT	UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Operational Satellite Applications
MOB	Management Oversight Board (ISDR)	UNCT	United Nations Country Team	UN-SPIDER	United Nations Platform for Space-Based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework		
MP	Member of Parliament				
NDMCC	National Disaster Management Coordination Committee	UNDG	United Nations Development Group	UN TFDR	United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)
NDWC	National Disaster Warning Centre	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	UNU	United Nations University
NGO	Non-Government Organization	UNDP/BCPR	United Nations Development Programme/ Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery	UNU-EHS	United Nations University – Institute for Environment and Human Security
NIED	National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention	UNDP/DDC	United Nations Development Programme/ Drylands Development Centre	UNV	United Nations Volunteers
OAS	Organization of American States	UN/DMTP	United Nations/Disaster Management and Training Programme	WANA	West Asia/North Africa
OCHA	Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	UN/ECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	WB	World Bank
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme	WCDR	World Conference on Disaster Reduction
PAHO/WHO	Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization	UNEP/GRID	United Nations Environment Programme/ Global Resource Information Database	WFP	World Food Programme
PPEW	Platform for Promotion of Early Warning	UN/ESCAP	United Nations/Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	WHO	World Health Organization
RCC	Regional Consultative Committee	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	WHO-HAC	World Health Organization – Health Action in Crises
RC	UN Resident Coordinator	UNESCO-IBE	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization- International Bureau of Education	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
REC	Regional Economic Commission (Africa)	UNESCO/IOC	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission		
RBM	Results-based management	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change		
SAAC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation	UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme		
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund		
SADC	Southern African Development Community	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund		
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation	UN/ISDR	Secretariat of the ISDR, United Nations		
SEEDRMAP	South Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Programme	UNOOSA	United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs		
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency				
TEWS	Tsunami Early Warning System				
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification				



## **Annex 1: List of Principal Thematic Partnerships Associated with the ISDR**

*From the UN/ISDR draft policy note “Thematic partnerships for disaster risk reduction and the development of ISDR Thematic Platforms”*

**Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI):** A partnership initiated and staffed by UNDP-BCPR, OCHA and the UN/ISDR secretariat in 2007, as a follow-up to the multi-stakeholder UN Disaster Management Training Programme (DMTP) to focus on capacity development with an emphasis on supporting UN Country Teams through capacity assessment, training, information and advisory services. See <http://www.unisdr.org/cadri/>

**Global Risk Identification Programme (GRIP):** A coalition of ISDR-related partners, led by UNDP-BCPR, GRIP focuses on implementing a comprehensive programme to build national capacities in risk assessment and to provide global risk updates. See [www.gri-p.net](http://www.gri-p.net).

**Global Wildland Fire Network:** An extensive worldwide network of academics and practitioners with regional sub-networks and supported and guided by the Global Fire Monitoring Centre in Freiburg University, Germany. Links to both ISDR and FAO processes. It undertakes advocacy, information exchange and training. See [www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/GlobalNetworks/globalNet.html](http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/GlobalNetworks/globalNet.html).

**Group on Drought Risk Reduction:** An informal group of ISDR partners (UNCCD, WMO, FAO, WFP, OCHA, UNDP/DDC, IFRC, UN/ESCAP, the National Drought Monitoring Center - NDMC, University of Nebraska, USA, and the International

Centre for Drought Risk Reduction – ICDRR - based in Beijing) and experts devoted to advancing coordinated action on drought. Meets occasionally and has undertaken activities to link climate change and disaster issues, including preparation of substantive publication in 2007 with strong support and contribution of the ISDR secretariat. The group is currently evolving towards a platform status.

See [www.unisdr.org/eng/task%20force/tf-disc-group1-eng.htm](http://www.unisdr.org/eng/task%20force/tf-disc-group1-eng.htm).

**International Recovery Platform (IRP):** A formal partnership among ADRC, Hyogo Prefectural Government, IFRC, ILO, MOFA Italy, Cabinet Office of Japan, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), UNDP, UN-HABITAT, UN/ISDR, OCHA and World Bank, with a multi-stakeholder advisory committee, secretariat in Kobe (Japan) and management by UNDP. Has a defined work programme which includes best practice development and a project to develop a common post-disaster needs assessment methodology. See [www.recoveryplatform.org](http://www.recoveryplatform.org).

**Platform for Promotion of Early Warning (PPEW):** A unit based in Bonn and staffed by the UN/ISDR secretariat, established in response to guidance of the Third International Conference on Early Warning. A current focus is the development of the International Early Warning Programme (IEWP) which is co-chaired by WMO and IFRC. It has supported an ISDR Partner Advisory Group (ADRC, DKKV, FAO, GFMC, IFRC, UNCCD, UNEP, UNESCO/IOC, ISDR, UN/OOSA, OCHA, UNU-EHS, WFP, WMO) and has coordinated multi-stakeholder Indian Ocean tsunami-related early warning projects. See [www.unisdr.org/ppew](http://www.unisdr.org/ppew)

**ProVention Consortium:** Established in 2000 by the World Bank and in partnership with donors, organizations and academic

institutions, the Consortium offers an informal forum where different actors can collaborate on disaster risk reduction. It has five core themes: mainstreaming risk reduction, risk analysis and application, reducing risks in recovery, risk transfer and private sector investment, and expanding risk research and learning. It is currently hosted by the IFRC in Geneva. See [www.proventionconsortium.org](http://www.proventionconsortium.org).

**Thematic Platform on Knowledge and Education:** A coalition of ISDR System partners spearheaded by UNESCO and UNICEF - ActionAid International, ADRC, AU Commission, Council of Europe, CRED/Catholic University of Louvain, FAO, IFRC, ITU, ProVention Consortium, UNCRD, UN DMTP, UN/ECE, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNU/EHS, UNV (United Nations Volunteers), WMO - with the strong involvement of the UN/ISDR secretariat, the Platform works to bring DRR into school curricula and to secure safer schools. A substantive report on risk reduction in schools has been produced and an international conference is planned for 2008. The Platform is now evolving into a more formal status. See [www.unisdr.org/eng/partner-netw/knowledge-education/knowledge-education.htm](http://www.unisdr.org/eng/partner-netw/knowledge-education/knowledge-education.htm)

**Working Group on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction:** A working group of ISDR System partners (IDS -/University of Sussex, WHO, WMO, IFRC, UNEP, OCHA, UNFCCC, UNDP, ProVention Consortium), together with interested organizations/possible new members - OXFAM Hong Kong, CARE International, Christian Aid, Tearfund, IIED, IRI/Columbia University, Fiji School of Medicine, MSF (Doctors Without Borders), EU-CORD - set up with specific terms of reference at IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force)/DR-9. Meets periodically, has undertaken activities to link the climate and disaster agendas, with strong support and contribution of the UN/ISDR secretariat. See [www.unisdr.org/eng/task%20force/tf-working-group-cc-drr-eng.htm](http://www.unisdr.org/eng/task%20force/tf-working-group-cc-drr-eng.htm)

**Working Group on Environmental Management and Disaster Reduction:** Established by IATF/DR-11 and led by UNEP with strong UN/ISDR secretariat involvement. Thirteen organizations in the Working Group - UNEP, IFRC, WFP, ADRC, Council of Europe, GFMC, WMO, ADPC, UNDP, AU Commission, IUCN, UNU and UNCRD. Prepared report for ATF/DR-12, and developed guidance

booklet at Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2007. See [http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/first-session/docs/Workshops/4\\_2\\_3\\_Ecosystems\\_Environment/Environment\\_and\\_Vulnerability.pdf](http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/first-session/docs/Workshops/4_2_3_Ecosystems_Environment/Environment_and_Vulnerability.pdf)

There are a number of other entities that have relevant thematic partnership characteristics, including the following:

- Asian Seismic Risk Reduction Centre (ASRC). See [www.asrrc.org](http://www.asrrc.org).
- Business Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction (under development as a global network of private sector partners, particularly from the major insurance and re-insurance sector, in association with the UN/ISDR secretariat, aiming to facilitate joint public-private actions on DRR).
- International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon (Centro Internacional para la Investigación del Fenomeno de el Niño, CIIFEN) See [www.ciifen-int.org](http://www.ciifen-int.org).
- Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative (EMI). See [www.emi-megacities.org](http://www.emi-megacities.org)
- Expert Group on Vulnerability Assessment. See <http://www.ehs.unu.edu/category:5?menu=18>.
- Global Alliance for Community-Based Disaster Reduction. See <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/pubs/disasters/reduction/global-alliance-reduction.pdf>
- Group on Earth Observations (GEO). See [www.earthobservations.org/index.html](http://www.earthobservations.org/index.html)
- International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Assessment (ICHARM). See [www.icharm.pwri.go.jp](http://www.icharm.pwri.go.jp)
- International Consortium of Landslides (ICL), <http://icl.dpri.kyoto-u.ac.jp>

- International Floods Initiative (IFI).  
See <http://www.wmo.ch/pages/prog/hwrp/IFI.html>
- United Nations Platform for Space-Based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER). See <http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/unspider/index.html>

### Expectations of ISDR Thematic Platforms

The criteria for a thematic partnership to be accorded a formal relationship with the ISDR System as an ISDR Thematic Platform are proposed to be as follows:

1. The thematic area of endeavour of the partnership is relevant to the needs of the Hyogo Framework and a primary stated purpose of the entity is to contribute to the implementation of the HFA.
2. The partnership commits to providing leadership and guidance for the thematic area, as its resources allow, including for advocacy, coordination,

networking and partnership development, information provision, and inputs to PreventionWeb and global and regional reporting processes.

3. The partnership publishes a workplan on an annual basis and participates in the ISDR System Joint Work Programme, including contributing to systematic monitoring of progress and development of appropriate indicators in its field.
4. The partnership provides a written annual report to the UN/ISDR secretariat on its activities and contributions to the ISDR Joint Work Programme.
5. The partnership is governed by a membership of three or more stakeholder institutions, at least one of which is a member of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and membership is open to both governmental and non-governmental organisations.

## Annex 2

### UN/ISDR secretariat work areas related to the goals and priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters

HFA Strategic Goals	UN/ISDR secretariat's contribution
<p>1. The integration of DRR into sustainable development policies and planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ISDR partnership: launch of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery with the World Bank with focus to influence on poverty reduction strategies to include DRR</li> <li>▪ ISDR/UNDG Task Team: increased involvement of the UNDG and UN Resident Coordinator system to implement HFA in the CCA/UNDAF process and link DRR to MDGs (draft guidelines in place)</li> <li>▪ Climate change adaptation plans including DRR content and early warning – UN/ISDR guidance to UNFCCC Bali Action Plan and IPCC process</li> <li>▪ Enhanced advocacy, partnerships and knowledge management for mainstreaming DRR for climate change, environment, education and safer schools and hospitals</li> </ul>
<p>2. Development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased number of national platforms for DRR promoted (currently 46 in place)</li> <li>▪ Regional strategies for DRR in place in Africa and Asia as a consequence of UN/ISDR work; increased institutional basis in AU and ASEAN for DRR</li> <li>▪ Increased UN/ISDR support to regional programmes: ISDR Asia partnership (IAP), including Third Ministerial Conference (New Delhi), Africa Regional Platform with African Union Commission and Americas Regional Platform with OAS</li> <li>▪ Targeted advocacy by increased UN/ISDR engagement and participation in policy dialogues with parliamentarians, local authorities and Governments</li> <li>▪ ISDR system institutional base in place: Global Platform for DRR, Inter-Agency Joint Work Programme with ISDR System partners and PreventionWeb (system web resource)</li> </ul>
<p>3. The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ UN/ISDR coordinated contribution to DRR in humanitarian flash appeals post disaster including DRR content (Pakistan earthquake, post tsunami, drought Horn of Africa)</li> <li>▪ Increased engagement and interaction of relevant organizations, including OCHA, the International Recovery Platform, the Platform for Promotion of Early Warning</li> <li>▪ Collection and dissemination of guidelines available; good practices and lessons learned to make the case for increased DRR action, and to stimulate more interest in DRR/HFA/ISDR from donors, policy makers, and other stakeholders (refer to table Paragraph 33 HFA- Implementation and follow-up)</li> </ul>

## HFA Priorities and Cross Cutting Issues

HFA Priorities and cross cutting issues	UN/ISDR secretariat results areas (output level)	Sections of the Report
<p>1. Ensure that DRR is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Successful first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction</li> <li>2. Regional platforms and Ministerial Conferences</li> <li>3. Promotion of National Platforms and HFA focal points in Government (guidelines, meetings, assessments)</li> <li>4. Advocacy work with Parliamentarians and with high-level Government officials</li> <li>5. Advocacy and reporting at UN &amp; inter-governmental fora (General Assembly, ECOSOC, CSD), regional and sub-regional IGOs</li> <li>6. Mainstream disaster risk reduction into humanitarian (IASC), development (UNDG), environmental (EMG) fields</li> <li>7. HFA indicators and HFA Monitor</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Section 2.1.1. Providing Guidance to Stakeholders (P. 7)</li> <li>2. Section 2.1.2. Facilitating Regional Capacities and Cooperation (P.9)</li> <li>3. Section 2.1.3. Supporting National Actors (P. 14 - P. 20) P. 2, P. 8, P. 25 and P. 28</li> <li>4. Section 2.1.1. Providing Guidance to Stakeholders (P. 2 - P. 8)</li> <li>5-6. Section 2.1.1. Providing Guidance to Stakeholders (P. 2 and P. 8)</li> <li>7. Section 2.3.1. Monitoring, Assessing and Reporting on Risk Status and Progress in the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (P. 35)</li> </ol>
<p>2. Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Global risk update (data &amp; analysis)</li> <li>2. Regional risk update studies</li> <li>3. Global Assessment Report on DRR</li> <li>4. PPEW- early warning practices, and support to Indian Ocean Consortium</li> <li>5. Climate change and disaster risk reduction practices and support to UNFCCC negotiations and IPCC process</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1-3. Section 2.3.1. Monitoring, Assessing and Reporting on Risk Status and Progress (P. 35 - P. 37)</li> <li>4. Section 2.1.1. Providing Guidance to Stakeholders- Thematic platforms; Box 2: The Indian Ocean Consortium (P. 9 ); Annex 1: List of Principal Thematic Partnerships Associated with the ISDR (P. 49)</li> <li>5. Section 2.2.2. Integrating Climate Change and DRR (P. 28 - P. 30)</li> </ol>

<p>3. Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Advocacy and guidelines on integrating DRR in school curricula</li> <li>2. Awareness raising &amp; media work</li> <li>3. Good practices- collection &amp; dissemination</li> <li>4. Scientific &amp; Technical Committee for DRR</li> <li>5. PreventionWeb</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Section 2.2.1. Advocacy, Public Awareness and Media Outreach (P. 31)</li> <li>2. Section 2.2.1. Advocacy, Public Awareness and Media Outreach (P. 25)</li> <li>3. Section 2.2.1. Advocacy, Public Awareness and Media Outreach (P.31); Refer to below table Paragraph 33 HFA- Implementation and follow-up)</li> <li>4. Section 2.1.1. Providing Guidance to Stakeholders- Thematic platforms (P. 9)</li> <li>5. Section 2.3.3. An Information Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the ISDR System: PreventionWeb (P. 40)</li> </ol>
<p>4. Reduce the underlying risk factors</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Safer Hospitals campaign, Safer Schools campaign follow-up</li> <li>2. Integration of DRR in environmental management and development planning (Environment reduction platform)</li> <li>3. Climate Change and DRR</li> <li>4. Information management and good practices on post-disaster coordinated action (International Recovery Platform)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Box: the 2008-2009 World Disaster Reduction Campaign (P. 33)</li> <li>2. Section 2.1.1. Providing Guidance to Stakeholders Annex 1: List of Principal Thematic Partnerships Associated with the ISDR</li> <li>3. Section 2.2.2. Integrating Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (P. 28)</li> <li>4. Section 2.1.1. Providing Guidance to Stakeholders - Thematic platforms; Annex 1: List of Principal Thematic Partnerships Associated with the ISDR</li> </ol>
<p>5. Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support to IASC work on preparedness</li> <li>2. Preparedness indicators</li> <li>3. Indian Ocean Consortium (multi-agency follow-up of the tsunami work)</li> </ol>	<p>2.1.1. Providing Guidance to Stakeholders (P. 8) Box 2: The Indian Ocean Consortium (P. 18 )</p>
<p>i. Community and volunteers participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Global NGO network and good practices disseminated</li> <li>▪ Support to IFRC Global Alliance for DRR</li> </ul>	<p>2.2.1. Advocacy, Public Awareness and Media Outreach (P. 25)</p>



ii. Gender perspective and cultural diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction guidelines and good practices (expert group), advocacy</li> </ul>	2.2.1. Advocacy, Public Awareness and Media Outreach (P. 27)
iii. Capacity building & technology transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Direct support to CADRI</li> <li>▪ Developed courses with ILO/ITC local level</li> <li>▪ Support to university programmes on DRR</li> </ul>	Capacity Development (P. 21-P.22)

### Paragraph 33 HFA- Implementation and follow-up

HFA follow-up	UN/ISDR secretariat's key processes, reports and publications	Sources
Develop a matrix of roles and initiatives in support of follow/up to the Hyogo Framework	Progress Report on the matrix of commitment and initiatives to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework	<a href="http://www.preventionweb.net">www.preventionweb.net</a>
Facilitate the coordination of effective actions within the UN system and other international and regional entities to support the implementation of the HFA, identify gaps, facilitate processes to develop guidelines and policy tools for each priority area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ISDR System Joint Work Programming; by ISDR Inter-Agency Group (currently comprised of FAO, IFRC, ILO, OCHA, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, WMO, the World Bank and gradually involving UN-Habitat, Provention Consortium, UNFCCC, UNCCD and others potential partners</li> </ul> <p>ISDR system partners, thematic platforms, and the Global NGO Network contributed to joint results to facilitate the implementation of Hyogo Framework.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ UNDG, CEB, IASC, WB (GFDRR) committing to HFA</li> </ul>	Available upon request
Develop generic, realistic and measurable indicators that could assist States in measuring progress in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ "Indicators of Progress: Guidance on Measuring the Reduction of Disaster Risks and the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action"</li> <li>▪ HFA Monitor tool available on-line</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.unisdr.org">www.unisdr.org</a> <a href="http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/hfa-monitoring">http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/hfa-monitoring</a>

<p>Support national platforms &amp; regional coordination</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Words into action: HFA</li> <li>▪ Guidelines: national platforms for disaster risk reduction”</li> <li>▪ Acting with common purpose” proceedings from the first session of the Global Platform</li> <li>▪ Strengthened UN/ISDR regional programmes, with support to regional platforms and inter-governmental organizations (CEPREDENAC, CDERA, CAPRADE, OAS; AUC, ECOWAS, SADC; ASEAN, SAARC; ECO, LAS; Council of Europe)</li> <li>▪ Inter-agency programmes in support of national platforms and mechanisms</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/framework/">http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/framework/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform">www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform</a></p>
<p>Stimulate the exchange, compilation, analysis and dissemination of best practices, lessons learnt;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PreventionWeb</li> <li>▪ Building Disaster Resilient Communities Good Practices and Lessons Learned</li> <li>▪ Gender Perspective: Working Together for Disaster Risk Reduction Good Practices and Lessons Learned</li> <li>▪ Drought Risk Reduction Framework and Practices: Contributing to the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action</li> <li>▪ Towards a Culture of Prevention: Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School Good Practices and Lessons Learned</li> <li>▪ Gestion de Riesgo de Desastres Hoy: Contexto Global, Herramientas Locales (Americas region)</li> <li>▪ Bi-annual ISDR Informs Magazines in the regions. Americas, Asia/Pacific, Africa</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.preventionweb.net">www.preventionweb.net</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/ngos-good-practices">www.unisdr.org/ngos-good-practices</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/gender-good-practices">www.unisdr.org/gender-good-practices</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/drought-risk-reduction">www.unisdr.org/drought-risk-reduction</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about_isdr/bd-isdr-publications.htm">www.unisdr.org/eng/about_isdr/bd-isdr-publications.htm</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org">www.unisdr.org</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.eird.org/gestion-del-riesgo/index.html">www.eird.org/gestion-del-riesgo/index.html</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.eird.org">www.eird.org</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/asiapacific">www.unisdr.org/asiapacific</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/afrcia">www.unisdr.org/afrcia</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/wana">www.unisdr.org/wana</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/europe">www.unisdr.org/europe</a></p>

<p>Prepare periodic review on progress towards achieving the objectives of the HFA and provide reports to the UNGA &amp; other UN bodies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Disaster risk reduction: 2007 global review (2007)</li> <li>▪ UN Secretary-General Report on Implementation of ISDR (A/62/320)</li> <li>▪ UN Secretary-General Report on Global Survey of Early Warning Systems (A/62/340)</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar">www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar</a> <a href="http://www.unisdr.org">www.unisdr.org</a></p>
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Full text of HFA available at: [www.unisdr.org/hfa](http://www.unisdr.org/hfa)



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