

The background of the cover features a large, stylized United Nations emblem on the left, which includes a world map and a laurel wreath. The emblem is rendered in shades of blue. To the right of the emblem, there is a large, abstract graphic consisting of several overlapping triangles in blue, orange, and white, with dotted lines connecting their vertices.

Disaster Risk Reduction in the United Nations

Roles, mandates and results
of key UN entities

2013

Acknowledgements

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Disaster Risk Reduction in the United Nations

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Introduction

Disaster risk is increasing; it is changing; the number of people and assets exposed to disasters is trending up in most regions. The number and diversity of actors is also increasing; Ministers of Finance, planners, local authorities, the private sector and citizens are recognizing their role and engaging in efforts to reduce disaster risk. This changing risk environment comes with fresh challenges. It requires a renewed commitment to coherent action in countries.

In response, the United Nations is adapting and scaling-up its commitment to reducing disaster risk and building resilience. It is actioning the calls for support by its Member States, as set out in the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disaster*, and in the *Future We Want* document adopted at the Rio+20 Conference in Brazil in 2012.

The UN is supporting countries and communities in a number of ways; for example, in the provision of early warning systems, capacity-building for effective risk governance, and the mainstreaming of disaster risk into the agriculture, health and education sectors. The support is channelled through the UN country assistance development frameworks (UNDAFs) to ensure it is tailored towards local and national needs and makes the best use of existing capacities and resources. An increasing number of UN resident coordinators are championing disaster risk reduction through leadership and bringing multiple partners together around a common agenda.

As we look beyond 2015, the UN will be ready and committed. In 2013, the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB) endorsed the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience. The Plan develops three core commitments, with actions and expected results, a shared approach to measure impact and progress, and steps for its implementation. With



As we look beyond 2015, the UN will be ready and committed. In 2013, the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB) endorsed the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience. The Plan develops three core commitments, with actions and expected results, a shared approach to measure impact and progress, and steps for its implementation. With this Plan, the UN embraces the international momentum to refer to “resilience” as a common outcome that integrates poverty reduction, disaster risk reduction, sustainable livelihoods and climate change adaptation, as integral to sustainable development.

This publication, *Disaster Risk Reduction in the United Nations*, is an important contribution to these efforts. It provides an overview of roles, mandates and areas of work of UN agencies, along with the World Bank, to support local, national and regional efforts to reduce disaster risk. It informs on the service-lines available to countries. We hope it can be a useful tool to promote coherence and maintain the momentum of the UN’s commitment to building the resilience of nations and communities.

Elizabeth Longworth
Director
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

For updated information and organizations not covered by this publication, please see www.preventionweb.net/go/contacts/

A printed Directory is made available every two years at the Global Platform. This is the third edition.



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The background of the image is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this background is a large, faint, light blue emblem of the United Nations. The emblem consists of a world map showing the continents, enclosed within a circular grid of latitude and longitude lines. To the right of the map, there is a stylized olive branch with several leaves, symbolizing peace. The text "UN working to reduce disaster risks" is centered over the emblem in a white, sans-serif font.

UN working to
reduce disaster risks



FAO

The Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

General description of the organization

FAO leads international efforts to defeat hunger, serving both developed and developing countries. It helps developing countries and countries in transition to improve agriculture, forestry and fishery practices to ensure food and nutrition security for all. FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy strategies, priorities, norms and standards around its three Global Goals:

1. Reduction of the absolute number of people suffering from hunger, progressively ensuring a world in which all people at all times have sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life;
2. Early elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all, with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods;
3. Sustainable management and utilisation of natural resources - including land water air, climate and genetic resources - for the benefit of present and future generations.

To defeat hunger, FAO serves its member countries, particularly those affected by disasters, to improve sustainable agriculture, livestock, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries and natural resource management.

Disaster risk reduction goal

Among its five new priorities, FAO's strategic objective on risk reduction and crisis management is to increase the resilience of livelihoods to shocks and threats affecting food and agriculture. FAO humanitarian and development work comprises tackling risks and crises from natural hazards, transboundary plant pests and animal diseases, socio-economic shocks, and protracted crisis.



FAO's approach to DRR is linked to FAO's work on long term development and humanitarian assistance. It promotes institutional capacity development, hazard and food early warning systems, as well as good practice and technology in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and natural resource management, to prevent and mitigate the adverse impacts of crises on the most vulnerable people and ecosystems.

FAO's goals for DRR are to reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience of agricultural livelihoods to threats and emergencies, and to protect and strengthen the food and nutrition security of farmers, fishers, pastoralists and foresters. This includes to:

- Support the enabling environment of member states, with appropriate legislation, policies and institutional frameworks for disaster risk reduction in agricultural sectors, and to strengthen the institutional capacities to implement these;
- Provide, strengthen and harmonize food and nutrition security information and early warning systems to monitor the multiple threats to food security and to enhance decision-making in preparedness and response, policy, advocacy, programming, prioritization, targeting;
- Develop capacities at all levels in preparedness, to improve response to, and recovery from, future threats to food and nutrition security, and to reduce their potential negative impact on livelihoods;
- Reduce the underlying risks to food and nutrition security and build the resilience of livelihoods through the application of good practices, processes and technologies in farming, fisheries and forestry.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

FAO's current Strategic Framework, launched in 2008 includes a corporate Strategic Objective on Disaster and crisis risk management for "improved preparedness for, and effective response to, food and agricultural emergencies". FAO's Medium Term Plan (2010-2013) specifically identifies three key organizational results related to:

1. Disaster prevention and mitigation and preparedness (DRR);
2. Emergency response and rehabilitation; and
3. Transition and linkages to development.



These multidisciplinary results foster interdisciplinary action along a continuum of work on humanitarian, investment, policy and development assistance. Each organizational result is coordinated by a dedicated multi-disciplinary technical team and implemented in the regional and country offices.

In that context, FAO has consolidated its DRR work into a new Framework Programme (Resilient Livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction for Food and Nutrition Security; www.fao.org/docrep/015/i2540e/i2540e00.pdf) on DRR which is organized into four main pillars that are closely in line with priority areas of the HFA:

- Institutional strengthening & risk management governance for food and agriculture sectors;
- Information and early warning systems on food & nutrition security and trans-boundary threats;
- Preparedness for effective response and recovery in agriculture, livestock, fisheries & forestry;
- Application of good practices, processes & technologies for mitigation & prevention in farming, fisheries and forestry.

Highlights of impact since 2011

HFA Priority for Action 1: Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening

Institutional strengthening and good governance for disaster risk reduction and crisis management in agriculture, fisheries, livestock, forestry and natural resources is a priority area of work within FAO.

HFA Priority for Action 2: Risk assessment and early warning systems

Information and early warning systems on food and nutrition security and trans-boundary threats ensure that member countries are better equipped with high quality data and information, and analytical capacity, to take decision and anticipate and prevent food crises.

HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

FAO's knowledge management strategy for risk management aims to substantially increase awareness, knowledge sharing, understanding and visibility of the importance of DRR in the fight against hunger. It aims to fill the knowledge gaps on the impacts of DRR measures on agriculture, nutrition and food security and to advocate for greater commitment from



the international community for coherent global, regional, national and local action for vulnerable smallholders.

HFA Priority for Action 4: Reducing underlying risk factors

To adequately protect agricultural livelihoods, it is critical to reduce the underlying risks and to build the resilience of farmers, pastoralists, fishers, foresters. FAO supports member countries to reduce the negative impact of natural hazards and other threats through the application of appropriate technologies and practices in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, as well as sound natural resource management practices and sustainable use of ecosystems.

HFA Priority for Action 5: Preparedness for effective response

FAO supports member states with different preparedness capacities and measures in agriculture, fisheries, livestock and forestry. This includes, for example, assisting countries to develop food safety contingency and response plans, supporting preparedness planning and simulation exercises for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Resilient Livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction for Food and Nutrition Security: www.fao.org/docrep/015/i2540e/i2540e00.pdf

Membership in key networks

- Inter-Agency Standing Committee-IASC
- United Nations Development group-UNDG
- International Consortium on Landslides
- Fire Management Actions Alliance
- Mountain Partnership
- Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping System
- Global Early Warning and Response System for Major Animal Diseases
- Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands
- One Health
- Alliance Against Hunger and Malnutrition
- Livestock emergency guidelines and standards-LEGS
- Integrated Food Security Phase Classification-IPC



National counterpart

Ministries and/or departments of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock, Fisheries and Environment and related extension services, research institutes, universities, NGOs, municipalities and farmers' organizations.

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ILO

International Labour Organization

ILO

General description of the organization

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the United Nations agency devoted to advancing opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity. Its main aims are (i) to promote rights at work, (ii) encourage decent employment opportunities, (iii) enhance social protection and (iv) strengthen dialogue in handling work-related issues.

ILO is the only 'tripartite' United Nations agency in that it brings together governments and representative organizations of employers and workers to jointly shape labour policies and to negotiate agreements by consensus. This unique arrangement gives ILO an edge in advancing the creation of decent jobs and the kind of economic and working conditions that give working people and business people a stake in coping with crisis and in creating lasting prosperity and progress.

Disaster risk reduction goal

The ILO promotes the reconstruction of societies affected by recurrent disasters through decent work, enhancing preparedness, mitigation of potential impacts in countries at high risk, and increasing resilience.

In disaster scenarios, ILO – in partnership with other UN and multilateral agencies – contributes to enhance disaster recovery and risk reduction efforts focusing on employment creation, income generation, disaster risk reduction of vulnerable livelihoods and the promotion of sustainable local development.



Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

The centrality of decent work for peace, security and disaster resilience is recognized unequivocally by the international community. With its influence on contemporary economy and politics, the ILO is called to build on the principles enshrined in the 2008 Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, the 2009 Global Jobs Pact and the United Nations Policy for Post-Conflict Employment Creation, Income Generation and Reintegration (UN Employment Policy), also released in 2009.

The 2009 UN Employment Policy (whose development the ILO has spearheaded jointly with UNDP), calls for multifaceted and interlinked interventions based on three programming “tracks” addressing specific objectives and challenges of the conflict and disaster management cycle. In so doing, the transition from the emergency response to decent work creation is made possible.

The UN Employment Policy highlights the importance of national and local resilience in its aim to scale up and maximize the impact, coherence and efficiency of employment support. It highlights the challenges that root causes of conflict present and offers recommendations for addressing such challenges through job creation that links short-term and more sustainable long-term employment and reintegration programs. An operational guidance note complements the policy and helps practitioners to articulate a coherent and integrated strategy, guide decision-making, and identify roles and responsibilities.

Highlights of impact since 2011

HFA Priority for Action 1: Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening

ILO/UNEP/ITUC/IOE “Green Jobs Initiative” for (i) modelling climate change policies and assessing their impacts on employment, incomes and livelihoods, (ii) promoting Green Jobs in post disaster recovery initiatives and (iii) protecting employment & livelihoods at risk encouraging resilience, prevention and preparedness.



HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

TRAINING initiative ILO-ITC/ILO-CRISIS/UNISDR on “Disaster Risk Reduction within the framework of Sustainable Local Development”, it also looks at post-disaster reconstruction and identifies recovery as one of the key opportunities for reducing disaster risk (in 4 languages E, F, S, P).

HFA Priority for Action 4: Reducing underlying risk factors

Among the highlights are the following:

- ILO’s response to Haiti earthquake;
- ILO’s response to typhoons in the Philippines;
- Participation to several Post-disaster Damage and Needs Assessments (PDNAs) in (e.g. Pakistan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Fiji, etc.).

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Multi-hazard Business Continuity Management. Guide for small and medium enterprises. ILO, 2012 http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/wcms_187875.pdf
- Pre-disaster planning for employment and income. Guide. ILO. (Forthcoming in 2013)
- Assessing the impact of natural disaster on employment and livelihoods. Training package. ILO. (Forthcoming in 2013)

Memberships in key networks

- International Recovery Platform (IRP). ILO is former chair of the Steering Committee of the Platform (2008 – 2009)
- IASC-Cluster Working Group on Early Recovery (CWGER). ILO is the convener of the livelihood and economic recovery group
- UNISDR Local Governance Alliance for DRR. The ITC/ILO is member of the Advisory Group since May 2008
- GFDRR. ILO and WB signed a joint statement (June 2009) to work more closely on global disaster risk reduction and livelihoods by reinforcing the collaboration to address the consequences of natural hazards and rebuild livelihoods in the aftermath of disasters, promoting innovative joint initiatives at the field level to help disaster prone countries
- Member of IAWSC Working Group on Preparedness



National counterpart

- Labour, Economic and Social Affairs ministries, Workers' organizations, Employers' organizations

Executive head

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- www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/crisis/index.htm: This website provides information on ILO/CRISIS operations and links to ILO's technical publications and websites.
- www.itcilo.org/delnet: This website provides information on the ITC/ILO training initiatives and links to the Delnet Local Development platforms.

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**IOM**

International Organization for Migration

IOM

General description of the organization

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As the leading international organization for migration, IOM provides services and advice to governments and migrants, and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners and its partners in the international community to:

- Assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management;
- Advance understanding of migration issues;
- Encourage social and economic development through migration;
- Uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

The IOM Constitution gives explicit recognition to the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development, as well as to the right of freedom of movement of persons. IOM works in four areas of migration management: migration and development, facilitating migration, regulating migration, and addressing forced migration. Cross-cutting activities include the promotion of international migration law, policy debate and guidance, protection of migrants' rights, migration health and gender.

Disaster risk reduction goal

IOM is strongly committed to the DRR agenda and to the implementation of DRR and CCA activities, which contribute to preventing displacement, reducing risks during displacement, building resilience and supporting migration as an adaptation strategy. These aim ultimately to bridge and integrate the humanitarian agenda with long-term sustainable development plans.



Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

Policy Documents & Operational Guidance

Environment, climate change and migration: IOM's approach and activities, 2011: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/IOMClimateChangeInfosheet_final.pdf

Disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and environmental migration: A Policy Perspective, 2011: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/activities/env_degradation/DRR-CCA-Policy-Paper-Final.pdf

Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in IOM's response to environmental migration, 2011: <http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/DDR-CCA-Infosheet.pdf>

Compendium of IOM's Activities in Migration, Climate Change and the Environment. 2009: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=540

Statements

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Third Session, Geneva, 813 May 2011: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/activities/env_degradation/GP-DRR-IOM-written-statement_2011.pdf

Institute for Public Policy Research Conference on Climate Change and Forced Migration: <http://www.iom.int/cms/en/sites/iom/home/news-and-views/speeches/speech-listing/institute-for-public-policy-research-con.html>

Environment, Forced Migration and Social Vulnerability International Conference, 9 – 11 October 2008, Bonn, Germany: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/activities/env_degradation/env_keynote_speech.pdf

14th Conference of the Parties to UNFCCC, Side Event, UNHCR in association with IOM and UNU, "Climate change, migration and forced displacement: the new humanitarian frontier?" 8 December 2008: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/activities/env_degradation/webcast.pdf



Aidons les pays en développement à faire face aux changements climatiques. Available at: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/about_iom/docs/DGs_LeMonde.pdf

15th Conference of the Parties UNFCCC Copenhagen, Side Event, "Climate Adaptation Continuum, Migration and Displacement: Copenhagen and Beyond," 16 December 2009 Available at: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/activities/env_degradation/speakingpts_swing.pdf

Joint High-level segment of the Sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) and of the Sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 6), United Nations Climate Change Conference, Cancun, Mexico 10 December 2010. Available at: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/activities/env_degradation/DG_UNFCCC_plenary_address.pdf2

Council

IOM Council, 101st Session, 2012: Resolution No. 1243: IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (Adopted by the Council at its 523rd meeting on 27 November 2012). Available at: http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/About-IOM/governing-bodies/en/council/101/MC_2362.pdf

IOM Council, 101st Session, 2012: IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework. (MC/2355). Available at: http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/About-IOM/governing-bodies/en/council/101/MC_2355.pdf

IOM Council, 94th Session, 2007: Discussion Note: Migration and the Environment (MC/INF/288). Available at: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/about_iom/en/council/94/MC_INF_288.pdf

International Dialogue on Migration (IDM)

2011 IDM on Climate Change, Environmental Degradation, and Migration

IDM No. 18 Report. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=772

Chair's Summary. Available at: <http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/microsites/IDM/workshops/climate-change-2011/Chair%27s-Summary.pdf>

Background Paper. Available at: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/microsites/IDM/workshops/climate-change-2011/background_paper.pdf



2007 IDM Expert Seminar on Migration and the Environment

IDM No. 10 Report. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/IDM_10_EN.pdf

IOM's website: Migration and Climate Change: www.iom.int/cms/envmig

Highlights of impact since 2011

IOM has increasingly been implementing DRR, DRM and CCA activities, and has subsequently developed a training module in order to improve the quality of IOM programming. IOM's DRR programmes promote the five HFA priority areas:

HFA Priority for Action 1: Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation: IOM has provided technical assistance to authorities to include DRR in national policies and has built their capacity to implement such policies and better respond to natural hazards, such as in Colombia, Nepal, Thailand, Haiti, Dominican Republic, and Namibia.

HFA Priority for Action 2: Risk assessment and early warning systems

IOM monitors disaster risks around the world and has established and enhanced early warning systems in various countries, such as Mozambique and Kenya.

HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels: IOM has used innovative and educational tools, such as two-way communication through illustrated journals, SMS and cellular phones, radio broadcastings and televised shows to better communicate and raise awareness with vulnerable populations, such as in Haiti and Pakistan.

HFA Priority for Action 4: Reducing underlying risk factors

IOM has implemented programmes that reduce the underlying risks, such as promoting soil conservation in Haiti or diversifying livelihoods in the Sahel region and Kenya.



HFA Priority for Action 5: Preparedness for effective response

IOM has worked with communities around the world to improve their preparedness to respond to natural hazards, including in Indonesia, Micronesia, Timor Leste and Myanmar.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

Environmental Degradation, Migration, Internal Displacement, and Rural Vulnerabilities in Tajikistan. IOM, Tajikistan, May 2012. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/Tajikistan2012EnvReport_ENG.pdf

The State of Environmental Migration. Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales (IDDRI) and International Organisation for Migration (IOM). Study No. 7, 11 December 2011. Available at: http://www.iddri.org/Publications/Collections/Analyses/STUDY0711_SEM%202010_web.pdf

Membership in key networks

- Senior Manager's Group on Disaster Risk and Resilience of the High Level Committee for Programming (HLCP)
- Inter-Agency Group on DRR
- Climate Change, Environment, and Migration Alliance (CCEMA)
- Informal group on Migration/ Displacement and Climate Change of the IASC
- Numerous regional and country membership in DRR platforms

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ITU

International Telecommunication Union

ITU

General description of the organization

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the leading United Nations agency for information and communication technologies. ITU helps governments and the private sector in three core sectors: radiocommunication, standardization and development. ITU also organizes TELECOM events and was the lead organizing agency of the World Summit on the Information Society.

ITU is based in Geneva, Switzerland, and its membership includes 193 Member States and more than 700 private-sector entities and academic institutions.

Disaster risk reduction goal

ITU's goal in disaster reduction is to strengthen emergency communications for disaster prevention and mitigation.

All the elements of ITU's work are centred on the goal of putting every human being within easy and affordable reach of information and communication and to contribute significantly towards economic and social development of all people. ITU develops the standards used to create infrastructure to deliver telecommunications services on a worldwide basis, manages the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits to help bring wireless services to every corner of the world, and provides support to countries as they pursue telecommunication development strategies.

As the specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for telecommunications/ICTs, ITU is committed to working with other organizations in combating climate change. ITU continues to play a leading role in developing an integrated approach to examining the relationship between ICTs and climate change, focusing on such key issues in the global framework as technology, climate data collection and monitoring, adaptation and mitigation.



Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

One of ITU's objectives within the purview of the Telecommunication Development Sector is to support the implementation of global, regional and other relevant initiatives and projects. This includes initiatives and projects relating to:

- Underserved areas;
- Indigenous communities and small island developing states;
- Least developed countries;
- Landlocked developing countries;
- Highly indebted poor countries;
- Countries recovering from conflicts;
- Countries and territories under occupation;
- Regions with special needs;
- Conditions that pose severe threats to the environment, such as natural disasters.

These initiatives and projects facilitate the deployment and operation of telecommunication/ICT networks and services with a view to fostering their secure, sustainable and affordable access and use at national, regional and global levels.

ITU assists countries in drafting and adopting appropriate ICT policies, regulations and guidelines that facilitate the use of ICT for disaster risk reduction to include Geographical Information and Remote Sensing Systems, which are critical for disaster preparedness and early warning.

At the global level, ITU promotes and provides assistance to stakeholders in the ratification and implementation of the Tampere Convention on the provision of telecommunication resources for disaster mitigation and relief operations. The treaty provides the legal framework for the use of telecommunications in international humanitarian assistance, reduces regulatory barriers, and protects providers of telecommunication assistance while safeguarding the interests of the host country.



Among the key reference documents and resolutions are:

- ITU-T Rec. E.106, "International Emergency Preference Scheme (IEPS) for disaster relief operations"
- Recommendation E.107 "Emergency Telecommunications Service (ETS) and Interconnect Framework for National Implementations of ETS".
- Recommendation E.123, "Emergency contact number notation"
- Recommendation E.161.1, "Guidelines to select Emergency Number for public telecommunications networks"
- Resolution 647 "Spectrum management guidelines for emergency and disaster relief radiocommunication"
- Resolution 673 "Radiocommunications use for Earth observation applications"
- Resolution. ITU-R 53 "The use of radiocommunications in disaster response and relief"
- Resolution. ITU-R 55 "ITU studies of disaster prediction, detection, mitigation and relief"
- Resolution 34 "Telecommunication resources in the service of humanitarian assistance"
- Resolution 2 "Utilization of ICT for disaster management and active and passive space-based sensing systems as they apply to disaster prediction, detection and mitigation"

Highlights of impact since 2011

HFA Priority for Action 1: Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening

ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau works globally with Governments on the establishment of regulatory frameworks that require operators to include disaster reduction features in their licensing regime.

HFA Priority for Action 2: Risk assessment and early warning systems

Assist countries in designing and implementing early warning systems.

HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

Design and develop guidelines, publications and websites that are used to train and raise awareness on disaster risk reduction issues. International, regional and international workshops are also held for these purposes.



HFA Priority for Action 4: Reducing underlying risk factors

Development and implementation of technical cooperation to assist developing countries to use ICTs to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.

ITU Study Groups develop technical and spectrum specifications that provide best practices in this area to include: resilient telecommunications installations that allow the installation and deployment of rugged telecom network plants and a Handbook on Outside Plant Installations, prioritization of calls, inter-operability of networks, and harmonization of frequency bands.

HFA Priority for Action 5: Preparedness for effective response

The Telecommunication Development Sector has published guidelines and best practice books on disaster management through the use of information and communication technologies. It has also designed and run national, regional, and international training and awareness raising events on enhancing preparedness for effective response. Over 20 partnership agreements were negotiated and signed, resulting in equipment and financial resources being contributed to the ITU's ongoing effort to contribute to disaster risk reduction.

Radiocommunications Sector, ITU-R, has developed a number of guidelines (known as Recommendations), used to identify appropriate systems for public protection and disaster relief, and requirements for disaster communications related to amateur and amateur-satellite services, including the use of transportable fixed radiocommunications equipment for relief operations.

The Telecommunications Standardization Sector has produced technical standards that provide call preference schemes for the PSTN and for systems based on Internet Protocol. It is also developing message broadcasting specification using IP technologies, and is paying special attention to support of emergency and alert services in Next Generation Networks. ITU-T has approved a telecommunication security architectural framework which is applicable to TDR/EW systems (ITU-T Rec.X.805), and a Supplement on emergency services for third-generation mobile networks. ITU-T has prepared an Action Plan to accelerate the standardization work of the technical groups in support for Telecommunications for Disaster Relief and Early Warning, and has appointed one of the groups to act as focal point for the activities. These are instrumental specifications that will be used as a basis for implementation by manufacturers and telecom network operators of facilities supporting emergency communications.



Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and Information & Communications Technologies (ICTs): the Case of Ghana:
<http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/climatechange/report-ghana.html>
- Using submarine cables for climate monitoring and disaster warning: Opportunities and legal challenges:
http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/oth/4B/04/T4B040000160001PDFE.pdf
- Using submarine cables for climate monitoring and disaster warning: Strategy and roadmap:
http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/oth/4B/04/T4B040000150001PDFE.pdf
- Using submarine cables for climate monitoring and disaster warning: Engineering Feasibility Study:
http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/oth/4B/04/T4B040000170001PDFE.pdf
- Assessment Framework for Environmental Impacts of the ICT Sector:
http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/oth/4B/04/T4B0400000B0008PDFE.pdf
- Toolkit on Environmental Sustainability for the ICT Sector:
<https://www.itu.int/ITU-T/climatechange/ess/index.html>
- End of Life Management for ICT Equipment:
http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-t/oth/4B/04/T4B0400000B0013PDFE.pdf
- Radiocommunications and Climate Change:
<http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/index.asp?category=information&mlink=climate-change&lang=en>
- Handbook on Emergency Telecommunications:
<http://www.itu.int/pub/D-HDB-HET-2004/en>
- Compendium of ITU'S Work on Emergency Telecommunications:
<http://www.itu.int/pub/D-HDB-WET-2007>

National counterpart

- Government Ministries for Telecommunications and Telecommunications Regulatory Agencies



Executive head

Dr. Hamadoun I. Touré, Secretary-General

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OCHA

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

OCHA

General description of the organization

OCHA's mission is to mobilise and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors to alleviate human suffering in emergencies, advocate for the rights of people in need, promote preparedness and prevention and facilitate sustainable solutions. The USG also chairs the Inter-Agency Standing Committee as the Emergency Relief Coordinator. OCHA:

- Works with Governments to strengthen their capacity with early warning information, contingency planning, national capacity-building and training, and by mobilizing support from regional networks;
- Helps Governments access tools and services for life-saving relief (rapid-response teams, needs assessment, funds, reports and civil-military coordination);
- Identifies and analyses trends and helps the humanitarian community develop common policy, based on humanitarian principles;
- Speaks out publicly when necessary, works behind the scenes, negotiating on issues such as access, protection of civilians and aid workers, and humanitarian principles;
- Gathers and shares reliable data on where crisis-affected people are, what they urgently need and who is best placed to assist them;
- Helps manage humanitarian donations from more than 130 countries through its financial tracking services.

Disaster risk reduction goal

OCHA's key objectives are to:

- Convene humanitarian and development partners to work strategically and coherently to strengthen resilience and build national and local capacity



- Advocate a resilience-based approach and ensure resilience concepts are integrated into the humanitarian programme cycle, and humanitarian tools and mechanisms are used to optimum effect

OCHA works to incorporate DRR approaches into humanitarian programmes and strengthen preparedness for effective humanitarian response. Emergency preparedness and DRR are critical to building community and household resilience.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

- OCHA in 2012 & 2013: Plan and Budget (www.unocha.org/ocha2012-13/)
- OCHA on Messages (www.unocha.org/about-us/publications/OOM)
- Policy Briefs (www.unocha.org/about-us/publications/policy-briefs)

Highlights of impact since 2011

In 2013, OCHA and UNDP are leading a pilot project to strengthen disaster resilience at the country level with the support of the Political Champions Group for Disaster Resilience. Initial pilot countries include Chad, Haiti, Nepal and Niger.

HFA Priority for Action 5: Preparedness for effective response

Targeted support on emergency preparedness, including response capacity assessment, simulation exercise, contingency planning, was provided to governments, regional organizations and inter-agency teams in Africa (Rwanda, Ghana, Nigeria/ECOWAS, Cameroon, Madagascar, Gabon/ECCAS, Comoros and South Africa) and the Middle East (Egypt, Tunisia and Jordan, Pakistan and Afghanistan). In conducting these advisory missions, OCHA joined forces with partners, such as CADRI and UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, humanitarian agencies through the IASC Sub Working Group on Preparedness, IFRC, bilateral/multilateral donors, and UNISDR.

Moreover, OCHA's Emergency Services Branch and Programme Support Branch supported its Regional and Country Offices in coordinating, providing technical advice and ensuring consistent emergency preparedness work across geographical regions. These included international response tools (UNDAC, INSARAG), civil-military coordination, cluster approach, needs assessment, HC/RC coordination support, information management and humanitarian financing systems (CERF, CAP, Flash Appeals).



In September 2011, an OCHA Minimum Preparedness Package was endorsed by all OCHA Regional Offices and a number of Country Offices. It focuses OCHA's preparedness support, covering country response capability, regional reinforcement and OCHA's own readiness to respond. The 'end states' consist of a set of minimum preparedness actions, which represent the day-to-day support extended by OCHA, particularly its Regional Offices, to RCs/HCs and HCTs Teams in facilitating response preparedness.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Overview of the 2013 Consolidated Appeals and comparable humanitarian action plans (docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/CAP/CAP_2013_Overview_of_2013_CA.pdf)
- Checklist for RCs and HCs on Emergency Preparedness and Response (www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/downloaddoc.aspx?docID=5569&type...)
- Inter-Agency Real-Time Evaluation of the Humanitarian Response to the Earthquake in Haiti March 2012, (www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/downloaddoc.aspx?docID=6164&type...)

Memberships in key networks

- Inter-Agency Standing Committee (www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/)
- UNISDR Inter-Agency Group (IAG)
- CADRI (www.cadri.net)

National counterpart

- National Disaster Management Offices/Ministries

Executive head

Ms. Valerie Amos, Under-Secretary-General and
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- www.reliefweb.int
- www.unisdr.org/cadri

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OHCHR

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights

OHCHR

General description of the organization

The mission of OHCHR is to work for the promotion and protection of all human rights for all people; to help empower people to realize their rights and to assist those responsible for upholding such rights in ensuring that they are implemented. In carrying out its mission, OHCHR:

- Gives priority to addressing the most pressing human rights violations, both acute and chronic, particularly those that put life in imminent peril;
- Focuses attention on those who are at risk and vulnerable on multiple fronts;
- Pays equal attention to the realisation of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development; and
- Measures the impact of its work through the substantive benefit that is accrued through it to individuals around the world.

Operationally, OHCHR works with governments, legislatures, courts, national institutions, civil society, regional and international organisations, and the United Nations system to develop and strengthen capacity, particularly at the national level, for the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with international norms.

Institutionally, OHCHR is committed to strengthening the United Nations human rights programme and to its full implementation. OHCHR is committed to working closely with its United Nations partners to ensure that human rights form the bedrock of the work of the United Nations.

Disaster risk reduction goal

OHCHR advocates for a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to be integrated into DRR policies and programmes, HFA and post-HFA activities.



Activities undertaken to enhance preparedness and resilience should be principle-based, carried out in consultation with the affected population and consistent with a framework of relevant norms and standards, including international human rights and humanitarian law.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

The strategy on OHCHR engagement in humanitarian action, endorsed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2011 (no link available).

OHCHR's message on disaster risk reduction: All states have positive human rights obligations to protect human rights. Natural hazards are not disasters, in and of themselves. They become disasters depending on the elements of exposure, vulnerability and resilience, all factors that can be addressed by human (including state) action. A failure (by governments and others) to take reasonable preventive action to reduce exposure and vulnerability and to enhance resilience, as well as to provide effective mitigation, is therefore a human rights question. Similarly, the important factors of population shifts, the density of built up environments and shortcomings in certain development models are also the product of choices made by governments, private actors and international organizations. Importantly, vulnerable, marginalized, discriminated and impoverished groups typically have fewer choices at their disposal to prepare for, respond to, escape from, or recover from disasters. Therefore, human rights should be integrated in all stages of DRR: prevention, mitigation, relief, development, reconstruction, and rehabilitation. A number of human rights-relevant elements are already explicitly addressed (to varying degrees) in the Hyogo Framework of Action, including gender, age, vulnerable groups, cultural diversity, livelihoods, and socio-economic structures. Others, however, are missing, and should therefore be addressed, among them discrimination and inequalities, economic and social rights in general, the rights to food, housing, and property in particular, displacement/IDPS, disability, older persons, poverty, the impact of climate change, and the need for participation by affected communities. Each of these is essential to rights-based and effective DRR.

Highlights of impact since 2011

The strategy on OHCHR engagement in humanitarian action, endorsed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2011, recognizes that human rights considerations must be fully integrated into the multilateral humanitarian system's planning, preparedness, response and recovery efforts for natural disasters.



It outlines that OHCHR will continue to strive to work with partners on disaster risk reduction, including with ISDR national committees. It also highlights that integrating human rights considerations in the response and recovery efforts serves to reduce the impact of natural disasters on the affected populations, and contributes to a more sustainable post-crisis recovery and development.

OHCHR continues to work with Governments and other partners to integrate human rights in national DRR plans and measures. A number of field offices have provided assistance in drafting contingency plans and training, and are actively engaged in humanitarian activities related to disaster preparedness, response and recovery. For example, OHCHR as co-lead of the Regional Protection Cluster in the Pacific, works with the national disaster management offices to integrate human rights in disasters preparedness and response procedures and efforts including in Fiji and Tonga. OHCHR contributed to the Humanitarian Contingency Plan for the Protection Cluster in Nepal in 2011 to include a focus on access to adequate standards of food, health, housing, water and sanitation. In Kyrgyzstan, the OHCHR Regional Office for Central Asia contributed to a UN joint project on “Enhancing coordination for disaster response in the Kyrgyz Republic”. It collaborates with the Ministry of Emergency Situations and national NGOs, as well as organizes capacity building workshops of national stakeholders on integrating human rights in natural disasters management.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the outcome of the seminar addressing the adverse impacts of climate change on the full enjoyment of human rights (23-24 February 2012), A/HRC/20/7: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/HRAndClimateChange/Pages/HRCseminaronHRandclimatechange.aspx>
- Report of the 2010 Social Forum (Geneva, 4-6 October 2010), A/HRC/16/62 <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Poverty/SForum/Pages/SForum2010.aspx>



- OHCHR, Applying a human rights-based approach to climate change negotiations, policies and measures www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/ClimateChange/InfoNoteHRBA.pdf
- OHCHR, Human Rights Indicators: A Guide to Measurement and Implementation <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Indicators/Pages/HRIndicatorsIndex.aspx>

Membership in key networks

- IASC
- CEB HLCP
- ISDR
- Global Protection Cluster (GPC)

National counterpart

- Government
- NGOs
- UN partners

Executive head

Ms. Navanethem Pillay, High Commissioner for Human Rights

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- <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/indicators/index.htm>
- <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/climatechange/index.htm>

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UNCRD

United Nations Centre
for Regional Development

UNCRD

General description of the organization

The United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) was founded in 1971 as an instrument to help achieve the strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade. Created by an agreement between the UN and the Government of Japan, its operations are supported by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA). UNCRD's vision is to achieve a sustainable living environment for all. Its mission is to assist developing countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable development. Regional development planning and management offers an effective set of tools, which UNCRD is prioritizing to realize its vision and mission by guiding sub-national, national and international actions to reduce the social, economic and environmental disparities within a region or among different regions. UNCRD's interventions in developing countries are clustered under three main thematic interrelated and complementary areas of work – (a) Integrated Regional Development Planning; (b) Sustainable Urban Management; and (c) Knowledge Management.

Disaster risk reduction goal

Under the Sustainable Urban Management Cluster, the UNCRD Disaster Management Planning Programme has the overall goal, as a means to achieve sustainable development, to advance disaster risk reduction globally and support efforts in making local communities, cities and societies more resilient to the impacts of natural and human-induced hazards and disasters.

UNCRD Disaster Management Planning Programme focuses on key elements of self-help, cooperation, and education through activities such as:

- Research projects with specific focus on implementation and field experiences;
- Dissemination of best practices through workshops, publications, reports and internet homepage;



- Training and capacity building in different communities;
- Advisory services to the vulnerable communities before and after the disasters, and networking of communities.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

A User's Guide: Community Based Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation, 2011

Highlights of impact since 2011

HFA Priority Areas 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Since the establishment of the Disaster Management Planning Programme in 1985, DRR has been one of UNCRD's main thematic areas of work, supporting efforts to achieve sustainable regional development. It does this through research, capacity building activities and partnerships with national and local governments, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), academia and communities (in developing countries), enhancing communities' resilience and reducing their vulnerability to natural and human-induced hazards and disasters.

Over the years, the UNCRD Disaster Management Planning Programme has accumulated a strong long-standing track record of successful work on issues such as Community-Based Disaster Management (CBDM), the School Earthquake Safety Initiative (SESI), and the Housing Earthquake Safety Initiative (HESI), which also comprised building code implementation and developing guidelines for repairing, restoring and seismic retrofitting of core community buildings. Throughout its history, the Centre's Disaster Management Planning Programme has always promoted and nurtured a participatory, pro-poor, inclusive, gender-sensitive approach, in all the different activities and initiatives it has developed and undertaken in different contexts. After twelve years in Kobe, the Disaster Management Planning Unit was, in 2011, reintegrated to the UNCRD Nagoya Office, where a new programme and new activities are being developed and undertaken by a new team.

The new Programme is building upon the vast experience accumulated by Centre over the years. Adapting to the reality of the trend of urbanization happening in developing countries, it is further integrating disaster risk reduction in urban areas, with a particular focus on slums, informal and marginal settlements which, at present, accommodate more than 90 per cent of the total slum dweller population worldwide.



To date, although various upgrading efforts are being made, very few are directly addressing disaster risk and vulnerability of the urban poor who establish themselves in inadequate housing structures on marginal sites such as floodplains or steep hillsides. These lack environmental services, including drainage, wastewater collection, garbage collection and adequate access to safe water, and are particularly susceptible to hazards of natural and human cause.

UNCRD's new Disaster Management Planning Programme is addressing these issues in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. It is working in line with the "Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters" and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled "The future we want", striving for the integration of pro-poor, gender-sensitive risk and vulnerability reduction strategies and plans into the policies, codes, regulations, plans and programmes at regional, national, and sub-national level.

One of the first activities of the new UNCRD Disaster Management Planning Programme was an "International Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Building of Urban Communities", held in Japan in 2012. The overall objective of the workshop was to support the establishment of a network of professionals, experts and representatives from governments, NGOs and CBOs of developing countries through training (including lectures, presentations, and group discussions).

The workshop was conceived as a platform, through which participants could share their knowledge, experience and points of view, and discuss cooperation in partnership with UNCRD to develop pro-poor, gender-sensitive strategies and plans for disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and resilience building of poor communities living in peri-urban and urban areas of their respective countries. The aim was to integrate these strategies and plans into policies and programmes, to achieve effective implementation at all (national and sub-national, i.e. city, village and community) levels.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Regional Development Dialogue; "Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Building in Urban Communities: Connecting the Local, Regional and Global Perspectives" Vol.34, No.1, Spring 2013



- Reconstruction towards Sustainable Communities: Promotion of locally-based industries with all stakeholder approach, 2012:
http://www.uncrd.or.jp/events/doc/2012_Tohoku_WS_Report_E.pdf
- A User's Guide, Community Based Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation, 2011

National counterpart

- National and local government
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)
- Academia and Communities

Membership in key networks

- UNISDR Inter-Agency Group
- International Recovery Platform

Executive head

Ms. Chikako Takase, Director

Focal points

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UNCCD

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

UNCCD

General description of the organization

Established in 1994, UNCCD is the sole legally-binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management. The Convention addresses specifically the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, known as the drylands, where some of the most vulnerable ecosystems and peoples can be found. In line with Article 23 of the UNCCD, the key function of the secretariat is to service the sessions of the COP and its subsidiary bodies.

The 10-Year Strategy of the UNCCD (2008-2018) states that "Successful implementation of this strategic plan requires a strengthening of the core servicing, advocacy and agenda-setting and representation functions of the UNCCD secretariat – with commensurate capacity and resources – in order to support Parties, the COP and the subsidiary bodies of the Convention in fulfilling their respective roles. In tandem, Parties to the Convention further specified their goals: *"to forge a global partnership to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and to mitigate the effects of drought in affected areas in order to support poverty reduction and environmental sustainability"*.

The Convention's 195 parties work together to improve the living conditions of people in drylands, to maintain and restore land and soil productivity, and to mitigate the effects of drought. The UNCCD is particularly committed to a bottom-up approach, encouraging the participation of local people in combating desertification and land degradation. The UNCCD secretariat facilitates cooperation between developed and developing countries, particularly around knowledge and technology transfer for sustainable land management.



Disaster risk reduction goal

As the dynamics of land, climate and biodiversity are intimately connected, the UNCCD collaborates closely with the other two Rio Conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Collectively, these Conventions are better placed to meet these complex challenges with an integrated approach and the best possible use of natural resources.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

Message of Mr. Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary of UNCCD, on the International Day for Disaster Reduction, 13 October 2012, Women – The (in) Visible Backbone of Resilience:

<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/secretariat/2012/IDDR.pdf>

Message of Mr. Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary of UNCCD, on the Occasion of the International Day for Disaster Reduction, 13 October 2011:

<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/secretariat/2011/STATEMENT%20IDDR%202011.pdf>

Message of Mr. Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary of UNCCD, on the Occasion of the International Day for Disaster Reduction, 13 October 2010:

<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/secretariat/2010/IDDR%20Message%202010.pdf>

Message of Mr. Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary of UNCCD, on the Occasion of the International Day for Disaster Reduction, 8 October 2008:

<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/secretariat/2008/Ig2008Disasterreduction.pdf>

Highlights of impact since 2011

Implementation of the UNCCD and its ten-year Strategy is a demanding task that requires a broad range of actions and knowledge. Furthermore, desertification/land degradation and drought are inherently linked with numerous other issues and related approaches. Recognising these interlinkages tends to generate significant benefits, from local to global level. Among the key topics in effectively fostering the implementation of the UNCCD and its ten-year Strategy are the following:



Science

Scientific collaboration around agreed themes and support to impact monitoring.

Reporting review and assessment

Reporting under the UNCCD, including the performance review and assessment of implementation system (PRAIS) as well as best practices.

Awareness Raising

Active influencing of relevant international, national and local processes and actors to address desertification/land degradation and drought.

Thematic priorities

Identifying and taking action on inter-linkages between desertification, land degradation and drought and selected key themes: biodiversity, climate change, food security, forests, gender and water.

Synergies among the Rio Conventions

Joint activities by the secretariats of the three “sister Conventions” on biodiversity, climate change and desertification, land degradation and drought.

Capacity building

Online tools and information on capacity building.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Zero Net Land Degradation: A Sustainable Development Goal for Rio+20. To secure the contribution of our planet's land and soil to sustainable development, including food security and poverty eradication
http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/UNCCD_PolicyBrief_ZeroNetLandDegradation.pdf
- Desertification; A visual synthesis (in 6 UN Languages)
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Desertification-EN.pdf>
- Land and soil in the context of a green economy for sustainable development, food security and poverty eradication
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Rio%206%20pages%20english.pdf>



- Thematic factsheet “Water scarcity and desertification” (updated and translated in French and Spanish language 2011)
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Desertificationandwater.pdf>
- Thematic factsheet Financing to combat desertification, land degradation and the effects of drought (English, French, Spanish)
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Financing%20Desertification%20fact%20sheet%205%20ENG.pdf>

Forthcoming in 2013:

- Advocacy policy framework on the thematic issue of drought (including water scarcity), posted as a CRIC11 document. See www.unccd.int under CRIC11.
- Report on “The High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policy” forthcoming at end of March 2013. See www.unccd.int.

UNCCD contribution to the following publications:

- Building a more sustainable world through education:
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Building%20a%20sust%20world.pdf>
- Global Drylands: A UN system-wide response
http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Global_Drylands_Full_Report.pdf
- The Forgotten Billion: MDG achievement in the Drylands
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Forgotten%20Billion.pdf>
- Combating Desertification and Land Degradation: Proven Practices from Asia and the Pacific
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Combating%20Desertification%20and%20Land%20Degradation.pdf>
- Land for life: Securing our common future
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/SLM-english-1.pdf>
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/SLM-english-2.pdf>



- Highlands and Drylands: Mountains a source of resilience in arid regions
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Highlands%20And%20Drylands.pdf>
- Drought risk management: Practitioner's perspectives from Africa and Asia
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Drought%20Risk%20Management%20-%20Practitioner%27s%20Perspectives%20from%20Africa%20and%20Asia.pdf>
- Climate change in the African drylands: Options and opportunities for adaptation and mitigation
<http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Publications/Climate%20Change%20Adaptation%20and%20Mitigation%20final.pdf>

National counterpart

The Hyogo Office focuses on key elements of self-help, cooperation, and education through activities such as:

- Research projects;
- Training and capacity-building;
- A series of international workshops;
- Advisory services;
- Research projects with specific focus on implementation and field experiences;
- Dissemination of best practices through workshops, publications, reports and internet homepage;
- Training and capacity-building in different communities;
- Advisory services to the vulnerable communities before and after the disasters, and networking of communities.

Executive head

Mr. Luc Gnacadja is the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

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Websites

- www.unccd.int
- www.unccd.int/en/about-the-convention/The-Secretariat/The-Executive-Secretary/Pages/default.aspx

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UNITED NATIONS Convention to Combat Desertification
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UNDOCO

UN Development Operations Coordination Office

UNDOCO

General description of the organization

The UN Secretary-General created the undg and the Development Operations Coordination Office (DOCO) in 1997 to unite the UN system and improve the quality of its development assistance.

The UN Development Group unites the 32 UN funds, programmes, agencies, departments, and offices that play a role in development. Our common objective is to deliver more coherent, effective and efficient support to countries seeking to attain internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

DOCO performs three critical functions for the undg and the Resident Coordinator system:

1. Focused policy coordination and technical support to the global work of the undg;
2. Support to the 6 Regional undg Teams and over 130 UN Resident Coordinators and UN country teams;
3. Knowledge management by gathering evidence and data on development effectiveness to feed into undg analytical work and decision making.

DOCO staff work with undg members to prepare system-wide issues, policies and guidelines for decisions by the group and the UN Chief Executives Board. DOCO administers the UN Country Coordination Fund, which provides Resident Coordinators with resources to improve their capacity to coordinate.



Disaster risk reduction goal

The Common Country Assessment and the UN Development Assistance Framework (CCA/UNDAF) process is one important way that the UNCT can demonstrate its commitment and articulate how it plans to support national risk reduction efforts. The undg has established a roster of trained DRR experts to effectively support United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) in integrating DRR into country analysis and the United Nations Development Action Framework (UNDAF).

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

'Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into the CCA and UNDAF A Guide for UN Country Teams' by the undg in 2009, http://www.undg.org/docs/9866/UNDG-DRR-Guidance-Note-2009_DUP_08-07-2009_11-43-02-734_AM.PDF

Highlights of impact since 2011

In response to the decision of the UN Secretary-General's Policy Committee to further mainstream disaster risk reduction and the Hyogo Framework for Action into UN system policies and practices, the undg and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR) set up a joint task team in 2008. The task-team was co-chaired by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme. The key output of the task-team is the guidance note for UN Country Teams referred to above.

The drafting process was led by UNEP and UNDP. The document benefited greatly from inputs and guidance from the following agencies: FAO, ILO, ITU, OCHA, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNIFEM, UNISDR, WFP, WHO and WMO.

Executive head

Ms. Deborah Landey, Director

Focal points

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UNDP

United Nations Development Programme –
Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery

General description of the organization

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in 177 countries and territories, UNDP offers global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations. In 1998 the UN General Assembly mandated UNDP to assume operational responsibility for natural disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness. UNDP employs more than 200 full time DRR practitioners, covering all regions, with special attention to the 60 highest risk countries. UNDP programme expenditures on DRR average US\$ 150 million annually. In all its activities, UNDP encourages the protection of human rights, capacity development and the empowerment of women.

Disaster risk reduction goal

UNDP's 2008-2013 Strategic Plan includes key results specifically related to disaster reduction and recovery. These include:

1. Enhancing conflict prevention and disaster risk management capabilities
 - Strengthened national capacities, including the participation of women, to prevent, reduce, mitigate and cope with the impact of systemic shocks from natural hazards
2. Ensuring improved governance functions post crisis
 - Post-disaster governance capacity strengthened, including measures to ensure the reduction of future vulnerabilities
3. Restoring the foundations for local development
 - Gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced in post-disaster and post-conflict situations
 - Post-crisis socio-economic infrastructure restored, employment generated, economy revived; affected groups returned/reintegrated.



Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

- UNDP Strategic Plan 2008-2013:
<http://web.undp.org/execbrd/pdf/dp07-43Rev1.pdf>

Highlights of impact since 2011

In **Armenia**, 15 years of UNDP support to the government has reduced disaster risk and allowed villages to benefit from practical assistance, such as drainage systems that reduce the risk of flooding. In 2011, UNDP helped the Ministry of Emergency Situations to create a public disaster risk E-Library that will help planners understand the risk present in different geographic locations. With UNDP's assistance, the Ministry also established a National Disaster Observatory, which collects and analyses disaster data to inform policy and decision making.

In Manizales, **Colombia**, seismic activity, high rainfall and rapid urban development on steep unstable land combine to make landslides a chronic hazard. UNDP support to a local government initiative has empowered 200 women by training and employing them as risk managers in their own communities. The women raise community awareness about the risk of landslides, identify areas at risk of collapse and maintain drainage ditches and retaining walls to prevent subsidence, making the city a safer place to live.

In **Indonesia**, since 2007, UNDP has been working with the government to reduce the human, economic, and social impact of disasters by establishing disaster risk management agencies across the country; integrating disaster risk reduction into the national five-year development plan; and developing comprehensive guidelines and tools for assessing damage, loss and needs for post-disaster recovery. In part, as a result of these activities, in January 2012 no lives were lost in Aceh when a 7.6 magnitude earthquake struck. Early warning systems worked and evacuations were made on time.

The 2010 floods in **Pakistan**, which affected over 20 million people, and the 2011 flooding, which affected over 5.5 million, left homes, bridges, roads, electricity infrastructure, agricultural land and crops destroyed. UNDP's recovery programme has focused on re-establishing the capacity of the government to respond to these and future floods; restore the livelihoods of vulnerable people; and rebuild basic community infrastructure. Over 170,000 people have been given emergency employment to remove debris and rebuild infrastructure. The energy needs of 150,000 people are now being met thanks to UNDP supported solar panels that didn't exist before, an example of building back better.



Memberships in key networks

- International Recovery Platform (IRP)
- Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI)
- Global Risk Identification Programme (GRIP)
- Platform for Environment and DRR (PEDRR)

National counterpart

National Governments and local governments (Disaster Management/ Preparedness, Planning, Construction)

Executive head

Ms. Helen Clark, Administrator

Focal points

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- www.undp.org/cpr
- www.cadri.net
- www.gripweb.org

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UNECE

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

UNECE

General description of the organization

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is one of five regional commissions of the United Nations. Its major aim is to promote pan-European economic integration. To do so, it brings together 56 member States located in the European Union, non-EU Western and Eastern Europe, South-East Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and North America. As a multilateral platform, UNECE facilitates greater economic integration and cooperation among its member countries and promotes sustainable development and economic prosperity. It does this through:

- Policy dialogue;
- Negotiation of international legal instruments;
- Development of regulations and norms;
- Exchange and application of best practices, as well as economic and technical expertise;
- Technical cooperation for countries with economies in transition.

UNECE contributes to enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations through the regional implementation of outcomes of global United Nations conferences and summits. It also draws up norms, standards and conventions to facilitate international cooperation within and outside the region.

Disaster risk reduction goal

UNECE's main goals related to disaster risk reduction and resilience are to:

- Help member States reduce their vulnerability to natural and human induced disasters, particularly in the context of the environment, land use planning, housing and climate change adaptation.
- Promote mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction into regional, national and local policies, plans and initiatives in the UNECE region.



- Develop guidance and best practice to regulatory authorities for the establishment of regulatory frameworks for managing the risks that confront consumers, citizens and communities.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

UNECE develops policy documents and operational guidance on disaster risk reduction and resilience in most of its areas of activities, including the following:

Risk management in regulatory systems

The UNECE Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems is a high-level and international partnership, which works under the UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies. It has produced two non-binding Recommendations on “Crisis Management within a Regulatory Framework” and “Managing Risk in Regulatory Frameworks”. Both were approved by the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies in 2011 (www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/wp6/Recommendations/Rec_P_Eng.pdf and www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/wp6/Recommendations/Rec_R_Eng.pdf)

The recommendations call for a more consistent and systemic application of risk management tools in regulatory work. The first lays out in detail the roles of all the key actors in the regulatory process and shows how risk management functions can be incorporated into overall regulatory functions.

Industrial accidents

The UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents helps its Parties to prevent industrial accidents that can have transboundary effects and to prepare for, and respond to, accidents if they occur.

Such accidents are sometimes triggered by natural events and disasters, and are often themselves considered to be disasters.

Besides providing support to countries for implementing the Convention, ECE participates in related activities such as on Natechs (natural-hazard triggered technological accidents). In this area, UNECE could cooperate routinely with ISDR, particularly in Europe, for example through the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction.



The second calls for regulators to design a crisis management function as an integral part of all regulations; for instance, by encouraging authorities to create “crisis management units”, endowed with the necessary resources such as emergency funding, people with required skills, communication systems, etc. that can be quickly released in a crisis.

Based on the results of the work of the Group of Experts, the UNECE secretariat published the book “Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks”, which provides guidance for regulatory authorities to establish regulatory frameworks that effectively manage the risks that confront consumers, citizens and communities.

Housing and land management

The priority direction is the integration and mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in the UNECE programmes and activities on housing and land management. Especially in countries of Southern Europe and Central Asia, housing frequently suffers from disasters such as earthquakes, floods and landslides.

The UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management is developing its long-term Strategy for sustainable housing and land management for the period 2014-2020. This document includes elements of disaster risk reduction and resilience.

Additional publications covering the topic:

- Climate Neutral Cities: How to make cities less energy and carbon intensive and more resilient to climatic challenges: www.unece.org/housing-and-land-management/hlmpublications/housing-and-land-management-hlm/2012/climate-neutral-cities-how-to-make-cities-less-energy-and-carbon-intensive-and-more-resilient-to-climatic-challenges/doc.html
- Country Profile on the housing sector - Tajikistan: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/Publications/cp.tajikistan.e.pdf
- Country profile on the housing sector - Azerbaijan: www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=20467
- Country profile on the housing sector - Kyrgyzstan: www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=20468



At its seventy-third session, in October 2013, the Committee is expected to approve an updated methodology for the development of the Country Profile studies, which will preview as an integrated part the topic of disaster reduction and resilience.

UNECE aims at working on the development of thematic spatial planning guidelines, including on disaster risk reduction, as an output of the Interdivisional Working Group on Sustainable Urban Development.

Water

The UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) provides a sound framework for water management and transboundary cooperation, including in the context of adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction. With the entry into force of the amendments opening the Convention for accession by non-UNECE countries in February 2013, the Convention turned into a global legal framework.

The Convention is supporting countries in developing transboundary adaptation strategies through guidance, capacity-building, projects on the ground and exchange of experience. In 2013-2015, a global network of basins and platform for exchanging experience on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins is being established and a collection of lessons learnt and good practices will be prepared.

For more information: www.unece.org/env/water/water_climate_activ.html

Public Private Partnerships in disaster risk reduction and reconstruction

As a part of its Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Initiative, the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence undertook two missions to Tsunami-hit areas of Japan, namely to Sendai and Tohoku regions in July and November of 2011. They met with local governments and explored the possibilities of using PPPs to recover and prevent future severe damages, as well as help them to get 'back in business'.

Locally these missions were supported by the PPP department of the Toyo University. A report has been prepared "On the Visit of the UN-led delegation to the Tsunami affected region of Japan on the role of PPP in disaster recovery and risk mitigation".



Highlights of impact since 2011

Guidelines/Studies

- Risk Management in Regulatory Systems
- Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks
- Housing and Land Management
- Strategy and Targets on Sustainable Housing and Land Management 2014-2020
- Guidelines on the Methodology of the Country Profiles on Housing and Land Management
- Climate Neutral Cities: How to make cities less energy and carbon intensive and more resilient to climatic challenges
- Country Profile on the housing sector: Tajikistan
- Guidelines on the Methodology of the Country Profiles on Housing and Land Management- to be approved in October 2013

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

General, regulatory framework

- The United Nations Regional Commissions and the climate change challenges
- Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks
- Recommendations on “Crisis Management within Regulatory Frameworks” and “Managing Risk in Regulatory Frameworks”

Housing and Land Management

- Strategy and Targets on Sustainable Housing and Land Management 2014-2020
- Climate Neutral Cities: How to make cities less energy and carbon intensive and more resilient to climatic challenges
- Country Profile on the housing sector: Tajikistan
- Country profile on the housing sector: Azerbaijan
- Country profile on the housing sector: Kyrgyzstan

Energy

- Energy security risks and risk mitigation: an overview



Water

- How to adapt water management to climate change in transboundary basins
- Guidance on water supply and sanitation in extreme weather events
- River basin commissions and other institutions for transboundary water cooperation
- Guidance on water and adaptation to climate change
- Adapting to climate change in transboundary water management
- Transboundary flood risk management: experiences from the UNECE region
- The United Nations Regional Commissions and the climate change challenges
- Second Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters
- Recommendations on payments for ecosystem services in integrated water resources management

Membership in key networks

- European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Technical committee 262 on “Risk Management”: UNECE is part of a group tasked to develop recommendation on the use of risk management standards for authorities

Executive head

Mr. Sven Alkalaj, Executive Secretary

Focal points

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UNEP

The United Nations Environment Programme

UNEP

General description of the organization

UNEP is the voice for the environment within the United Nations system. UNEP acts as a catalyst, advocate, educator and facilitator to promote the sustainable development of the global environment. To accomplish this, UNEP works with a wide range of partners, including United Nations entities, international organizations, national governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and civil society.

Disaster risk reduction goal

Disaster Risk Reduction is a key pillar in the Disasters and Conflicts Sub-Programme, one of six priority areas in UNEP's Medium-term Strategy (2010-2013).

UNEP aims to address the environmental causes and consequences of natural hazards and environmental emergencies and reduce their impacts on vulnerable communities and countries, through sound environmental management, improved preparedness, and environmentally-sustainable response and recovery. UNEP's work on prevention seeks to reduce ecosystem degradation that contributes to disaster risk, while maximizing the sustainable use of ecosystem services for risk and vulnerability reduction.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

Disaster risk reduction in UNEP has historical precedence, dating as far back as 1989, when the UNEP Governing Council endorsed UNEP's taking a proactive role in preparing for, preventing and responding to environmental emergencies due to industrial and natural hazards.



Most recently, at the 26th session of the Governing Council (February 2011), Agenda Item No.9, the Governing Council (GC) recognized UNEP's role in DRR with special emphasis on addressing and managing environmental emergencies and promoting greater cooperation on the environmental dimensions of natural and man-made (i.e. industrial) disasters. The GC also requested UNEP to "strengthen integrated approaches to reducing the risk of natural and man-made disasters and adapting to the impacts of climate change."

Other GC decisions on further improvement of environmental emergency prevention, preparedness, assessment, response and mitigation include the following: 21/17 of 09 February 2001, 22/8 of 07 February 2003, 20/9 of 1999, 19/1 of 1997, as well as other resolutions dated from May 1989 and August 1990.

- UNEP Statement on Ecosystem-based solutions for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, at the UN General Assembly Thematic Debate on Disaster Risk Reduction, April 2012
Statement delivered by Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Director of the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation, emphasizing the importance of ecosystem-based management solutions to address disaster and climate change risks:
www.un.org/en/ga/president/66/Issues/drr/disasterrisk.shtml
- UNEP Statement on Mining
Statement made on 2 March 2011 at the Inter-governmental Preparatory Meeting within the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 19) in New York, highlighting the need to reduce environment and security risks in the mining sector in South-Eastern Europe:
www.envsec.org/publications/UNEP%20IPM%20Statement%20Mining.pdf
- Global insurance industry statement on climate change adaptation in developing countries:
www.unepfi.org/fileadmin/documents/insurance_climatechange_statement.pdf

Highlights of impact since 2011

UNEP works to accelerate implementation of the HFA by focusing on both climatic and non-climatic risks, encompassing both natural and technological hazards as well as environmental emergencies.



UNEP's work on DRR cuts across HFA Priorities 1-5, with a focus on early warning, risk and vulnerability assessments, disaster preparedness and contingency planning for environmental emergencies, disaster prevention, sustainable recovery and adaptation to climate change-related risks. UNEP's DRR activities are divided primarily into four main components: advocacy at global, regional and national levels; national capacity development/training (targeting governments); partnerships; and development of guidance materials and toolkits.

Starting in 2012, UNEP, with the European Commission, is implementing an Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR) project that will demonstrate good practices in maximizing ecosystems for disaster risk reduction, for instance through integrated coastal zone management in Haiti, sustainable water resource management in Sudan, and catchment-based land-use planning in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Afghanistan.

In 2011, UNEP, with the Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR), developed and delivered National Trainings on Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction in Sri Lanka, India and Georgia, and a Training of Trainers for the Asia-Pacific Region. Together with the Centre for Natural Resources and Development Network (CNRD), UNEP developed a Masters of Science Module on Eco-DRR, which will be delivered by CNRD universities and other partnering universities.

Since 2007, UNEP has supported the ISDR system in undertaking global risk assessments for the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction (GAR). UNEP has developed and delivered a national training on integrated risk assessments that incorporate an ecosystems component, based on the RiVAMP methodology implemented in Jamaica; this training is now available online.

The UNEP/OCHA Joint Environmental Unit (JEU) works to enhance the preparedness of communities, disaster responders, governments, and industries against the potential risks and impacts of environmental emergencies. The JEU has developed the Environmental Emergencies Centre (EEC), an online platform designed to build the capacity of national responders to environmental emergencies. The EEC now offers a number of e-Learning training modules and workshops.



UNEP, with the Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC), works in four regions: Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus, and South-Eastern Europe. It has undertaken assessment of climate change impacts and transboundary risks in mountain regions, as well as of other threats to human security, especially from mining, hazardous and radioactive wastes. It has provided trainings on remediation associated with closure of mines, and on cross-border transport of hazardous waste.

UNEP assists countries to implement ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA) measures to reduce vulnerability and build ecological and social resilience to climate change risks. An EBA Decision Support Framework is under preparation to assist planners and decision-makers select, design, implement and track EBA approaches as part of a wider adaptation strategy.

UNEP has developed sustainable building guidelines through its Sustainable Buildings and Climate Initiative (SBCI).

The UNEP Finance Initiative has established the Principles for Sustainable Insurance, a global framework to link sustainability in the insurance sector, and has documented best practices from the sector in promoting sustainable investments that yield risk reduction or resilience outcomes, such as reforestation insurance coverage and urban river restoration for flood management.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- UNEP has developed an on-line training module that applies the RiVAMP methodology:
www.grid.unep.ch/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=253&lang=en&project_id=204F6705
- The Training Tutorial Manual:
www.grid.unep.ch/products/3_Reports/RiVAMP_Training_2012.pdf
- The Role of Ecosystems in Disaster Risk Reduction (UNU Press, May 2013)
UNEP has developed an on-line training module that applies the RiVAMP methodology: www.grid.unep.ch/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=253&lang=en&project_id=204F6705
- Keeping up with Megatrends - The implications of climate change and urbanization for environmental emergency preparedness and response:
<http://ochanet.unocha.org/p/Documents/Keeping%20up%20with%20Megatrends.pdf>



- Practical Guidelines for Sustainable Reconstruction. This publication follows the initial publication in 2007 entitled After the Tsunami: Sustainable building guidelines for South-East Asia: <http://unep.org/sbci/pdfs/After-Tsunami-Sustainable-building-guidelines.pdf>
- National Training Course on Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction: www.pedrr.net
- Graduate Level (MSc) Module on Environment, Disasters and Disaster Risk Reduction: www.pedrr.net
- The Glaciers of Central Asia: A Disappearing Resource
Climate Change in Eastern Europe
- Experience of the European Union in Adaptation to Climate Change and its Application to Ukraine
- Regional Climate Change Impact Study for the Caucasus Region
- Principles for Sustainable Insurance: www.unepfi.org/psi/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/PSI-document.pdf

Membership in key networks

PEDRR

UNEP is a founding member of the Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR), a global partnership of 15 other international and regional organizations, that promotes ecosystem-based DRR and adaptation.

IRP

UNEP is a Steering Committee member of the International Recovery Platform, which identifies gaps and constraints experienced in post disaster recovery and serves as a catalyst for the development of tools, resources, and capacity for resilient recovery. IRP aims to be an international source of knowledge on good recovery practice.

AGEE

The Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies (AGEE) is a biennial global forum that brings together key government, industry, academic, and non-governmental representatives – policy makers, environmental experts and disaster managers – from around the world to improve prevention, preparedness, response and overall resilience to environmental emergencies.



ENVSEC

The Environment and Security Initiative seeks to reduce environmental and security risks through transboundary cooperation among countries in four regions: Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus, and South-Eastern Europe.

UNEP Finance Initiative

UNEP FI is a global partnership between UNEP and the financial sector. Over 200 institutions, including banks, insurers and fund managers, work with UNEP to promote linkages between environmental and social sustainability and financial performance.

National counterpart

National and local authorities responsible for environment and natural resource management; development and land-use planning; disaster management and preparedness; HFA focal points; National Platforms for DRR.

Executive head

Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director

Focal points

- UNEP Post-Conflict and Disaster Management Branch (PCDMB)
- UNEP DRR Focal Points – Ms. Muralee Thummarukudy / Ms. Marisol Estrella

Websites

- www.unep.org/disastersandconflicts/
- www.unep.org/climatechange/adaptation/
OCHA Environmental Emergencies Section
(Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit)
- www.unocha.org/unep
- www.eecentre.org
- www.pedrr.net
- www.envsec.org
- www.unepfi.org/about/index.html

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UNESCO

United Nations Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization

UNESCO

General description of the organization

UNESCO is the United Nations' specialized agency for education, science and culture. Since its creation in 1945, the Organization has worked to promote knowledge and education worldwide. Its close links with professional and academic communities and other partners in 193 countries put it in a key position to press for action.

UNESCO works to create the conditions for dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, based upon respect for commonly shared values. It is through this dialogue that the world can achieve global visions of sustainable development, encompassing observance of human rights, mutual respect and the alleviation of poverty, all of which are at the heart of UNESCO'S mission and activities.

UNESCO's mission is to contribute to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information.

Disaster risk reduction goal

UNESCO supports Member States to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards and strengthen their capacity to cope with disasters by: providing expertise in the areas of establishing early warning systems; building capacity within line Ministries to ensure systems are prepared and able to respond; and network establishment / strengthening in DRR work.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

In its 34th session, the General Conference of UNESCO included contributing to disaster mitigation and preparedness among the fourteen Strategic Programme Objectives in the Organization's Medium Term Strategy for 2008-2013. Since 2008 the biennial programmes of UNESCO contain a specific main line of actions on DRR.



UNESCO provides intergovernmental coordination, advice to governments and policy support for the establishment and operation of monitoring networks and early warning and risk mitigation systems for natural hazards, with particular emphasis on earthquakes, tsunamis, coastal hazards, floods and landslides.

It also promotes joint multi-stakeholder strategies for enhancing disaster education and awareness as an intrinsic element of the United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (UN DESD) led by UNESCO, especially in communities at risk located in Africa, LDCs and SIDS.

Integrated approaches and synergies between the natural sciences, the social sciences, culture, education and information systems lay the basis for interdisciplinary platforms to manage disaster risks.

Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 – C4:

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001499/149999e.pdf>

Approved Programme and Budget 2012-2013 – 36C5:

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002152/215286e.pdf>

Highlights of impact since 2011

UNESCO plays a major role in the global coordination and monitoring of the Tsunami Early Warning Systems in both technical development (upstream) as well as in community preparedness for tsunami hazards (downstream). Tsunami Information Centres have been established and serve as an information resource that shares and distributes educational, awareness and preparedness materials and publications. In addition, in cooperation with regional, sub-regional and national partners, the Organization strengthens local capacities in preparedness, developing SOPs and tsunami emergency responses with special focus on SIDS. Provision of early warning services for other coastal hazards is underpinned by the development of operational ocean forecast systems within the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS).

Flood Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Measures in the Asia and the Pacific Region are being developed at the regional level through common Flood Forecasting and Warning Systems and Disaster Reduction Hyperbases. Web-based platforms for easy access to early warning are aiding their implementation and use by practitioners from local communities, research centres, government institutions and universities in a number of countries.



At National level Flood Early Warning systems are being supported (i.e. Pakistan, Namibia, among others), guidebooks for students have been developed on “Preventing/Reducing the risks of earthquakes and floods” (Jordan) while training teachers on their use and carrying out pilots with them in twenty two schools.

A Drought Early Warning System (drought monitor) has been transferred from the USA to climate related centres in Western (ECOWAS) and Eastern (IGAD) Africa Regions, while capacity has been built by training local experts on its use.

Mainstreaming DRR in the Education sector has been a focus of the Organization consisting of a number of initiatives such as:

- Advocate for DRR in the education sector (Ministries of Education);
- Support to policy development on DRR in the education sector, in the framework of ESD;
- Provide guidance on mainstreaming DRR into the education sector as well as the minimum standards for preparedness, response and recovery have been developed and translated;
- Develop capacity for DRR and emergency response in the education sector;
- Develop and disseminate teaching and learning materials on DRR in the education sector;
- Organize campaigns to promote a culture of prevention through education;
- Promote a School-Based Disaster Preparedness Model tested in schools.

Support is provided to Member States to integrate Disaster Risk Reduction into national policies and planning. The Organization has developed community self-assessment tools and educational & awareness-raising materials that integrate local and indigenous knowledge with science.

Furthermore, UNESCO has been proactive in protecting our common heritage from the effects of natural hazards by supporting Member States to be prepared (rapid response activities) and to set up prevention mechanisms (early warning systems). Finally, UNESCO supported countries in simulating evacuation drills at schools and trained the teachers on the appropriate evacuation measures.



Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation UNESCO's role:
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001504/150435e.pdf>
- Operational Users Guide for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (PTWS):
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001800/180097e.pdf>
- Guidebook for planning education in emergencies and reconstruction:
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0019/001902/190223e.pdf>
- UNESCO, Strategy for Risk Reduction at World Heritage Sites:
<http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2007/whc07-31com-72e.pdf>
- Disaster Risk Reduction in school curricula: case studies from thirty countries' (UNICEF/UNESCO):
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002170/217036e.pdf>
- Where the first wave arrives in Minutes:
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001898/189842e.pdf>
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001898/189842f.pdf>
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001898/189842s.pdf>
- Towards a learning culture of safety and resilience: Technical guidance on DRR in school curricula (UNESCO/UNICEF), up-coming May 2013
- Towards a Learning Culture of Safety and Resilience: Technical Guidance for Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction in the School Curriculum (Pilot Version): www.youtube.com/user/unescoamman?ob=0
- <http://www.unesco.org/new/es/sanjose/natural-sciences/proyecto-dipecho/>

Memberships in key networks

- Inter-Agency Group (IAG)
- Global Earthquake Model (GEM)
- Global Risk Forum (GRF Davos)
- International Flood Initiative (IFI)
- International Consortium on Landslides (ICL)

- Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS)
- Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)
- World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)
- International Platform for Reducing Earthquake Disasters (IPRED)
- Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR)
- Thematic Platform on Knowledge and Education (TPKE)
- Coalition for Global School Safety and Disaster Prevention Education (GOGSS-DPE)
- International Centre for Water Hazards and Risk Management (ICHARM)
- International Network on Education in Emergencies (INEE)
- Regional Inter-agency Cluster on DRM in the Education Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean

National counterpart

- National Commissions of UNESCO
- National committees of water, oceanographic and earth sciences
- National disaster risk reduction authorities
- Regional disaster risk reduction entities
- Ministries of Education
- Construction and Meteorology and related extension services.

Other activities

UNESCO is active in the preservation of cultural heritage. The Organization promotes strategies for the protection of UNESCO World Heritage Sites

Executive head

Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General

Focal points

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- www.unesco.org
- www.ioc-tsunami.org
- www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/special-themes/disaster-preparedness-and-mitigation/
- www.unesco.org/apia

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UNFCCC SECRETARIAT

The United Nations Framework Convention
on Climate Change Secretariat

UNFCCC

General description of the organization

In 1992, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (<http://unfccc.int>) was adopted as the basis for a global response to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. With 195 Parties, the Convention enjoys near-universal membership. The ultimate objective of the Convention is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system.

The UNFCCC is designed to assist developing countries to adapt to the inevitable adverse effects of climate change, and catalyzes action on climate change, including action on adaptation. It also commits all Parties to formulate, implement, publish, and regularly update national and, where appropriate, regional programmes containing measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change. The UNFCCC secretariat assists member countries in meeting their commitments under the Convention, makes practical arrangements for meetings, and compiles and distributes statistics along with other climate-related information, as well as assists in the implementation of the mandates of the Convention, the subsidiary bodies and ad-hoc working groups.

Adaptation work is undertaken within a range of work programmes under various Convention bodies including:

The Cancun Adaptation Framework (http://unfccc.int/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/items/5852.php) which includes provisions for:

- A process to enable LDC Parties to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), building upon their experience in preparing and implementing National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs), as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs;



- A work-programme to consider approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;
- The Adaptation Committee to promote the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention.

Support to the LDC work programme which includes NAPAs, and support to the LDC Expert Group (LEG).

The Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, Research and Systematic Observation.

Disaster risk reduction goal

Through these work programmes, the UNFCCC aims to facilitate disaster risk reduction (DRR) and risk management as part of enhanced action on adaptation to climate change. The Cancun Adaptation Framework calls for all Parties to undertake, inter alia:

1. Enhancing climate change related DRR strategies at local, national, sub-regional and regional levels, taking into consideration where appropriate the Hyogo Framework for Action, early warning systems, risk assessment, management, as well as sharing and transfer mechanisms such as insurance; and
2. Measures to enhance understanding, coordination and cooperation with regard to climate change-induced displacement, migration and planned relocation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

The Nairobi work programme (<http://unfccc.int/nwp>) promotes understanding of impacts of, and vulnerability to, climate change, current and future climate variability and extreme events, and the implications for sustainable development. It also enhances knowledge on ways to integrate practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management, and DRR strategies into national policies and programmes.



The work programme on loss and damage (http://unfccc.int/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/loss_and_damage/items/6056.php) assists countries to deepen their understanding of and expertise on loss and damage associated with climate change impacts. It does this through the generation and synthesizing of related knowledge as well as knowledge sharing and learning across countries, regions and among different stakeholder groups. It works in the areas of:

1. Assessing the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including relevant methodologies and data requirements; and
2. Developing a range of approaches (e.g. prevention, reduction, retention, transfer and rehabilitation) to address loss and damage from climate change impacts, including extreme weather events and slow onset events.

Under the work programme on loss and damage, the Parties to the UNFCCC will establish at COP 19 (November 2013) institutional arrangements, such as an international mechanism, to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

Highlights of impact since 2011

A number of the NAPAs prioritize issues related to building resilience and/or DRR. The NAPA priorities database is a good source of information on this (<http://unfccc.int/4583.php>). New projects submitted to the GEF in 2012 that are related to the HFA priority areas include (<http://unfccc.int/5632.php>):

1. **Benin, Burkino Faso, Sao Tome and Principe, and Sierra Leone:** Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Western and Central Africa for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change.
2. **Bhutan:** Reducing climate change-induced risks and vulnerabilities from glacial lake outbursts in the Punhakha-Wangdi and Chamkhar Valleys; and addressing the risk of climate-induced disasters through enhanced national and local capacity for effective actions.



3. **Burundi:** Community disaster risk management.
4. **The Gambia:** Strengthening climate services and early warning systems in the Gambia for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change.
5. **Uganda and Zambia:** Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Eastern and Southern Africa for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change.

The following projects were endorsed by the GEF CEO in 2012:

1. **Haiti:** Strengthening climate resilience and reducing disaster risk in agriculture to improve food security in Haiti post-earthquake.
2. **Vanuatu:** Increasing resilience to climate change and natural hazards.

The National Adaptation Plans (NAP) process under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, aims to reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, by building adaptive capacity and resilience, in particular in least developed countries.

The work programme on loss and damage associated with climate change impacts assists climate change adaptation practitioners in developing countries to advance their understanding on and expertise in managing climate-related risks including extreme weather events, and promotes comprehensive risk management approaches, including ways to address residual risks from climate change impacts.

The Nairobi Work Programme has been a catalyst for Parties and other stakeholders to generate and share knowledge and information on the following areas of work on adaptation: methods and tools, data and observations, socio-economic information, climate-related risks and extreme events, climate modelling, scenarios and downscaling, and adaptation planning and practices. Under the Nairobi work programme, a range of work has been undertaken since 2005 to assist countries to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change; and to make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socio-economic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.



Work relating to the HFA priority areas since 2011:

HFA Priority for Action 1: Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening

The Partners and Action Pledge Database (<http://unfccc.int/nwp>) and the Adaptation Practices Interface (<http://unfccc.int/4555.php>) provide central access to resources on partner organizations including their actions on DRR, climate-resilient development planning and early warning systems;

HFA Priority for Action 2: Risk assessment and early warning systems

The Compendium on methods and tools to evaluate impacts of, and vulnerability and adaptation to, climate change (<http://unfccc.int/5457.php>) provides key information on available frameworks, methods and tools, and their features to assist adaptation practitioners at all levels in selecting the most appropriate methodology for assessments of impacts and vulnerability, and preparing for adaptation to climate change;

HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

The Local Coping Strategies Database (<http://maindb.unfccc.int/public/adaptation/>) aims to facilitate the transfer of long-standing coping strategies and knowledge from communities which have adapted to specific hazards or climatic conditions, to communities which may just be starting to experience such conditions as a result of climate change;

HFA Priority for Action 4: Reducing underlying risk factors

The technical workshop on water resources, climate change impacts and adaptation strategies which took place in 2012 (<https://unfccc.int/6955.php>), and a synthesis publication on Climate Change and Freshwater Resources, contributed to improving understanding and assessment of climate change impacts on water resources management.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

Technical paper on current knowledge on relevant methodologies and data requirements, as well as lessons learned and gaps identified at different levels, in assessing the risk of loss and damage associated with climate change impacts (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2012/tp/01.pdf>).



Technical paper on slow-onset events and the literature review in the context of a range of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2012/tp/07.pdf> and <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2012/sbi/eng/inf14.pdf>, respectively).

Assessing the costs and benefits of adaptation options: An overview of approaches (http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/nairobi_work_programme/knowledge_resources_and_publications/application/pdf/2011_nwp_costs_benefits_adaptation.pdf)

Technical paper on water, climate change impacts and adaptation strategies (http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/6911.php?preref=600006592)

Memberships in key networks

- Inter-Agency Group (IAG)

National counterpart

- National climate change focal points

Executive head

Ms. Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary

Focal points

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- <http://unfccc.int/adaptation>

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UNFPA

United Nations Population Fund

UNFPA

General description of the organization

UNFPA is an international development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries use of population data in policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect.

UNFPA's goal is to achieve universal access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH), including family planning, to promote reproductive rights, reduce maternal mortality, and to accelerate progress on the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) agenda and MDG 5 (A and B). UNFPA, driven by country needs and tailored to country contexts, works to empower and improve the lives of under-served populations, especially women and young people (including adolescents), enabling them to better understand population dynamics, human rights and gender equality.

Disaster risk reduction goal

The 2nd Generation UNFPA Humanitarian Strategy is focused on strengthening disaster preparedness within development programming at the country level. Country Programmes and Country Programme Annual Work plans for countries at high risk of humanitarian crises include contingency planning and preparedness components in order to better assist the country to respond in the event of an emergency. Wherever possible, emergency commodities are repositioned, staff and partners trained on essentials of humanitarian response, disaster risk reduction, resilience building within host populations, advocacy while partnership and long term agreements are signed and staffing and business continuity arrangements made ahead of the crisis.



Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

Following-up on the 2010 evaluation of the First Humanitarian Generation Strategy's implementation, UNFPA took on board the recommendation to develop in 2011 the UNFPA Humanitarian Response Strategy: "Second Generation" (https://docs.myunfpa.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/UNFPA_Publication-31645), to mainstream between 2012 and 2013 humanitarian assistance within UNFPA programmes and organisational units. The strategy explicitly recognizes preparedness as essential, not only to effective response, but for prevention of some forms of crises and disasters, and for risk reduction and resilience building.

The UNFPA Humanitarian Standard Operating Procedures have devoted a section to UNFPA procedures to be adopted during the preparedness, post-crisis or transition phases of crises that have direct relevance to DRR and resilience building among exposed or affected populations and communities.

The UNFPA Guidelines on Data Issues in Humanitarian Crisis Situations (http://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/publications/2010/guidelines_dataissues.pdf) equally devote a chapter to preparedness. This focuses on sources of data, their strengths, shortfalls and uses, and provides a list of vital indicators that could be used to better appraise risks and vulnerabilities, and identify target populations and institutions for more effective DRR strategies.

Spatial analysis of population data is at the core of understanding and acting on climate vulnerability, particularly in high concentration, high exposure urban areas where vulnerability is dynamic and climate impacts threaten the lives and livelihoods of many. In 2012, UNFPA developed the "POPClimate Web Platform" around UNFPA's manual on the analysis of census data for climate adaptation planning, which was developed in concert with the City University of New York. The platform delivers the manual content, and is also designed to bring together a community of data users, climate practitioners and adaptation planners who can develop, share and comment on new approaches for data-driven DRR and climate change adaptation planning.



Highlights of impact since 2011

UNFPA's Second Humanitarian Response Strategy 2012-2013

UNFPA's primary role in humanitarian preparedness and DRR is to save lives by providing SRH services, delivering services and strengthening capacity to address gender-based violence (GBV), and contributing to effective response of the whole UN System through the use of population data. The launch and implementation of the Second Generation Humanitarian Response Strategy prioritizes disaster preparedness and resilience building, strengthening the continuum between humanitarian, peace-building and development efforts and as a result, significantly reducing the risks of emergency situations and the immense costs of relief operations.

UNFPA consolidated response to disasters is therefore focused within its mandate to ensure predictability and quality of support. The humanitarian response strategy will be supported by key guidance documents (Fast Tracking Policies and Procedures, and the Standard Operating Procedures in humanitarian settings) outlining how the Fund can better prepare and respond to disasters.

Disaster Risk Reduction, Fragile Contexts and Climate Change Adaptation

Starting in 2011, UNFPA invested substantial attention to aligning its development programming with its strategic engagement in fragile contexts. Increasingly confronted with the challenges of development work in fragile contexts, UNFPA launched in 2011 an analytical assessment to identify the potential need to adapt and align programming, human resources and operations of UNFPA's engagement in fragile contexts. Particular emphasis was dedicated to mitigating the negative impacts of vulnerability and exposure to natural disasters, among which were the steep increase of earthquakes, floods, landslides and droughts. Of importance in engaging in fragile contexts is the recognition that fragility can be exacerbated not only by emergency situations but also by internal displacement of people for various reasons, caused by natural disasters (including climate change), armed conflict, high unemployment, financial crisis, large flows of uncontrolled migration, and high population growth.



In the midst of a rapidly expanding global DRR agenda and a post-2015 HFA regime, it is of primary importance for UNFPA's disaster preparedness approach to establish programmatic linkages between disaster resilience-building and Climate Change Adaptation, in order to generate the most appropriate and effective interventions. As reacting to events after they occur is no longer sufficient, UNFPA is committed to adequately respond to the increasing need to anticipate and reduce the suffering and the damaging impacts on local economies and livelihoods that coming natural disasters will have. By developing national capacities in understanding population dynamics and extensive use of demographic data, UNFPA provides enabling environments for governments to develop pre-emptive and effective disaster resilience policies and practices. Linking demography, climate change adaptation, data foundations and techniques for analysing climate vulnerability helps to illuminate who is vulnerable and how to help build the resilience of vulnerable populations.

Enhancing communications with and amongst populations affected by disasters

Recognizing the importance of strengthening the disaster resilience-building capacities of communities through effective, concerted means of communication, UNFPA actively supported the Communicating with Disaster-Affected Communities (CDAC) Network's Media and Technology Fair held in March 2012. Bringing together decision makers and practitioners from many of the leading humanitarian, media development and technology agencies operating in the humanitarian space, the fair was organised in partnership with BBC Media Action (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/trust/>), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) (<http://www.unfpa.org/public/>) and Google.org, and with sponsorship from the GSM Association Development Fund (GSMA).

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Humanitarian Response Strategy "Second Generation", UNFPA, January 2012
- UNFPA Humanitarian Standard Operating Procedures, UNFPA January 2012
- The Demography of Adaptation to Climate Change. New York, London and Mexico City: UNFPA, IIED and El Colegio de México, Martine, George and Daniel Schensul, eds. 2013.



- UNFPA's POPClimate Web Platform, eds February 2013. Developed around UNFPA's manual on the analysis of census data for climate adaptation planning, which was developed in concert with the City University of New York (http://nijel.org/un_popclimate/)
- Managing Gender-based Violence Programmes in Emergencies, e-learning companion guide and CD-ROM, UNFPA, 2011

Memberships in key networks

- Communicating with Disaster-Affected Communities (CDAC) Network
- High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) Working Group on Climate Change
- United Nations System Chief Executive Board for Coordination (UNSCEB)
- Member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and its subsidiary bodies
- Inter-Agency Working Group for Reproductive Health in Refugee Situations
- Inter-Agency Needs Assessment Task Force
- Inter-Agency Early Recovery Cluster

National counterpart

- National Disaster Management Councils/Units of line ministries in framework of existing contingency plans in some countries.
- Global MOU with IFRC and MOUs at national level in some countries.

Executive head

Dr. Babtunde Osotimehin, Executive Director

Focal points

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UN-HABITAT

United Nations Human
Settlements Programme

General description of the organization

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-HABITAT, is the United Nations agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. The main documents outlining the mandate of the organization are the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, Habitat Agenda, Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and Resolution 56/206.

Disaster risk reduction goal

UN-HABITAT's main goals related to disaster risk reduction:

- Increasing investment in disaster risk reduction – integrating priorities from visible and short-term development projects with long term potential threats and risks;
- Addressing the root causes of disasters. Inadequate development practice increases the vulnerability of residents of communities, towns and cities; therefore, pre-disaster risk reduction needs to be integrated in all development planning;
- Making cities safer places to live by incorporating vulnerability reduction and disaster management into on-going national and local development and poverty reduction plans;
- Building a culture of prevention through a cross sectoral, multi-dimensional approach, integrating participatory analysis of risk, implementation of DRR programmes, and development of policy and legal frameworks with all stakeholders, including civil society, private sector, local, national and international government, in a gendered and comprehensive process.



Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

- Humanitarian Affairs and the role of UN-HABITAT, Strategic Policy on Human Settlements in Crisis and Sustainable Relief and Reconstruction Framework
www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2610
- Land and Property: UN-HABITAT in Disaster and Conflict Contexts
www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3192
- Shelter and Housing: UN-HABITAT in Disaster and Conflict Contexts
www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3194
- Urban Humanitarian Crisis: UN-HABITAT in Disaster and Conflict Contexts
www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3195
- Settlement Planning: UN-HABITAT in Disaster and Conflict Contexts
www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3193

Highlights of impact since 2011

HFA Priority for Action 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

The City Resilience Profiling Programme (CRPP) was launched in the Rio+20 Conference. UN-HABITAT has launched a call for expression of interest from cities to serve as pilot cities, where city resilience profiling will be tested and various tools to build resilience will be introduced.

HFA Priority for Action 1 and 4

(IASC) Transformative Agenda, UN-HABITAT has made progress with the intention to improve emergency preparedness and response in:

1) increasing institutional profile for UN-HABITAT's role in crisis response and city resilience; 2) developing operational programmes on DRR and emergency response and reconstruction; 3) improving urban emergency response through its urban advisory services; 4) training of its field and headquarter staff for emergency response; 5) establishing and utilizing its internal emergency response fund; and 6) new projects in Sri Lanka, Madagascar and Haiti in 2011, with vulnerability reduction measures for future disasters.

HFA Priority for Action 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

During the 2010 and 2011 Pakistan floods response, UN-HABITAT provided technical assistance by developing guidelines and standards for flood resistant housing for the shelter cluster and the Government.



In 2012, a new programme in Pakistan was launched in collaboration with the NDMA. The programme aims to establish sustainable, disaster resilient and safer cities and settlements in the disaster prone regions of the country.

In Myanmar, UN-HABITAT has been implementing a programme supported by Norway on strengthening the resilience of coastal communities and settlements at risk from climate change and disasters.

HFA Priority for Action 1, 2, and 5

In Rwanda, UN-HABITAT supported seven district authorities to analyse their resilience to natural hazards using LGSAT, and in Pakistan, UN-Habitat facilitated 31 cities to register in the UNISDR Making Cities Resilient Campaign, implement the LGSAT, and mobilized resources to assist reconstruction from flood impacts during 2012.

HFA Priority for Action 1, 3, 4

Beginning in 2010, and continuing through 2012 UN-HABITAT, together with UNISDR, developed a DRR training programme for Latin American local authorities. “*Reducción de riesgos de desastres y promoción del desarrollo sostenible en los gobiernos locales*” (Disaster Risk Reduction and the Promotion of Sustainable Development in Local Government) has been applied in five municipalities in Chile, and is being adapted for use elsewhere in Latin America, and in Southern Africa.

In November 2012, UN-HABITAT participated in the strategic planning for the post-2015 revisions to the HFA which will include a strong role for cities in contributing to national disaster management planning.

HFA Priority for Action 5

UN-HABITAT provided support to Mozambique on the preparation of a flood response plan.

Key publications/guidance since 2011

- “Focus on Mozambique, A decade of experimenting disaster risk reduction strategies”, 2012
www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3382
- “Turning Around the Tsunami”, 2011
www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3375
- “Shelter Projects 2010”, 2012
www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3292

Membership in disaster risk reduction related networks

- UNISDR Inter-Agency Group (IAG)
- Inter-Agency Standing Committee
- International Recovery Platform Steering Committee
- CATALYST: Capacity Development for Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation

National counterpart

Local Authorities, Ministries of Housing, Urban Development, Land and Resettlement

Executive head

Dr. Joan Clos, Executive Director

Focal points

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CC: Mr. Ko Takeuchi, Associate Expert Disaster Management, Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation Branch (ko.takeuchi@unhabitat.org)

CC: Mr. Esteban Leon, Chief, Shelter Rehabilitation Unit, Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation Branch, Geneva (esteban.leon@unhabitat.org)

Websites

- www.unhabitat.org
- www.disasterassessment.org, The Disaster Management Programme's specific site focusing on risk assessments
- www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=286, UN-HABITAT "Risk and Disaster Management"

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UNHCR
United Nations High
Commissioner for Refugees

General description of the organization

The Office of the High Commissioner for refugees was established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly. The agency is mandated to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another state, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally, or to resettle in a third country. It also has a mandate to help stateless people. In more than six decades, the agency has helped tens of millions of people restart their lives. Today, a staff of some 7,685 people in more than 125 countries continues to help some 33.9 million people.

Disaster risk reduction goal

The agency will begin to mainstream disaster risk reduction activities in a number of targeted operations that are known to be disaster-prone. Progress on this strand will depend on donor funding. Meanwhile, UNHCR will continue to build capacity of national actors, including government entities, to prepare for and manage refugee influxes.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

The agency will begin to mainstream disaster risk reduction activities in a number of targeted operations that are known to be disaster-prone. Progress on this strand will depend on donor funding. Meanwhile, UNHCR will continue to build capacity of national actors, including government entities, to prepare for and manage refugee influxes.



Highlights of impact since 2011

Since Disaster Risk Reduction has essentially been situated within the framework of development, it is a challenge for humanitarians to engage in this area. That being said, UNHCR has been trying to insert DRR as an integral part of its operations, recognising that DRR is essential to anticipate and be prepared, among others, for recurring disaster risks (flooding in places like Kakuma, Kenya) and to build resilience amongst the population affected. Other examples of recent initiatives include the work of the UNHCR Regional Centre for Emergency Preparedness (UNHCR eCentre) to support governments and national actors in the Asia-Pacific region with disaster preparedness and response, as well efforts to train and coach national NGOs from different regions in emergency response activities.

Key publications/guidance since 2011

UNHCR has coordinated two joint submissions within the framework for the Qatar COP:

1. "Human mobility in the context of loss and damage from climate change: Needs, gaps and roles of the Convention in addressing loss and damage". The submission was prepared together with the Norwegian Refugee Council, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, the United Nations University, the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs, and the International Organisation for Migration.
2. "Future areas of the Nairobi Work Programme: Views of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UN University, the Norwegian Refugee Council and its Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies".

Membership in disaster risk reduction related networks

- HLCP Senior Managers Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience
- IASC Sub-Working Group on Preparedness

Executive head

Mr. António Guterres, UN High Commissioner for Refugees



Focal points

Mr. Steven Corliss, Director, Division of Operational Support and Management (corliss@unhcr.org)

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UNICEF

United Nations Children's Fund

UNICEF

General description of the organization

UNICEF is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential. UNICEF is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and strives to establish the rights of girls and boys as enduring principles, and international standards of behaviour towards children.

Disaster risk reduction goal

To meet the objectives of the HFA, UNICEF believes it is critical that DRR is fully integrated into development and that humanitarian action and recovery contribute to a reduction of disaster risk. UNICEF advocates that DRR not only addresses the risks faced by children and women but that children have a right to play an active role in DRR and climate change adaptation.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

- UNICEF's Disaster Risk Reduction web page: http://www.unicef.org/education/bege_61691.html
- The 'Core Commitments for Children' (UNICEF): http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_21835.html
- 'UNICEF and Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction' (UNICEF): <http://www.unicefinemergencies.com/downloads/eresource/DRR1.html>
- 'Humanitarian Action for Children' 2013 (including references to disaster risk reduction, preparedness and resilience) (UNICEF): <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/>



- ‘Disaster Risk Reduction Programme Guidance Note’ (UNICEF): <http://www.unicefinemergencies.com/downloads/eresource/DRR1.html>
- ‘Children’s Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction’ (Children in a Changing Climate Coalition): <http://www.unicefinemergencies.com/downloads/eresource/DRR1.html>
- Sector specific DRR Technical Notes (UNICEF): <http://www.unicefinemergencies.com/downloads/eresource/DRR1.html>

Highlights of impact since 2011

HFA Priority for Action 1: Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening

UNICEF fully engages in national level development processes as well as in UN country planning (Common Country Assessment and the UN Development Assistance Framework – CCA/UNDAF). It works to ensure DRR is mainstreamed into government development policies and that national platforms are established. UNICEF also advocates for a strong representation of civil society, especially children, in DRR for national and local levels.

HFA Priority for Action 2: Risk assessment and early warning systems

UNICEF country programmes are based on assessments of priority disaster risks. UNICEF is supporting risk analysis, particularly building sub-national government capacity in risk assessment. UNICEF has developed its own organizational ‘early warning-early action’ system.

HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

UNICEF works to ensure that all children realize their right to a quality basic education. It focuses on the most excluded and vulnerable children: girls, the disabled, ethnic minorities, the poor, those who are affected by war and conflict, and those affected by HIV and AIDS. UNICEF works with its partners to ensure that learning facilities are safe, that schools are prepared for disasters, and that disaster risk reduction is included in the school curriculum.

HFA Priority for Action 4: Reducing underlying risk factors

UNICEF addresses the underlying causes of vulnerability and risk through building community and system resilience.

This is undertaken through both development and humanitarian work, and through its regular programmes in support of national and sub-national development, especially in the basic social services of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; Health; Nutrition; Education; and Child Protection.

HFA Priority for Action 5: Preparedness for effective response

UNICEF protects the rights of children in its preparedness for emergency response, and in building the capacity of partner governments for national and sub-national preparedness. UNICEF has mainstreamed emergency preparedness and contingency planning throughout the organization. UNICEF also advances preparedness initiatives through its co-leadership of the IASC Sub-Working Group on Preparedness, its support of CADRI and its cluster leadership or co-leadership in WASH, Nutrition, Education, Child Protection and Gender Based Violence clusters and areas of interest.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- UNICEF and Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction, UNICEF 2012
- UNICEF Social Protection Strategic Framework, UNICEF 2012
- Disaster Risk Reduction in School Curricula: Case Studies from Thirty Countries, UNICEF and UNESCO 2012

Memberships in key networks

- Inter-Agency Group
- Inter-Agency Standing Committee
- The Sub-Working Group of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on Early Warning and Contingency planning (UNICEF co-chairing with WFP)
- Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies
- ISDR System Thematic Platform on Knowledge and Education
- Children in a Changing Climate Coalition
- CADRI

National counterpart

National and local government, including Education, Health, Environment and Social Welfare Ministries, as well as national Disaster Management bodies. UNICEF also partners with national and international NGOs.



Executive head

Mr. Anthony Lake, Executive Director

Focal points

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UNISDR

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

UNISDR

General description of the organization

The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) was established in 1999 to facilitate the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR). UNISDR was mandated “to serve as the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among the disaster reduction activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations and activities in socio-economic and humanitarian fields” (UN General Assembly Resolution 56/195). With the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA), the United Nations General Assembly tasked UNISDR with supporting its implementation. UNISDR also organizes the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (UN General Assembly Resolution 61/198).

UNISDR has its headquarters in Geneva and implements its mandate through five regional offices based in Asia (Bangkok), Africa (Nairobi), Europe (Brussels), Arab States (Cairo) and Latin America and the Caribbean (Panama). UNISDR also maintains a UN HQ liaison office in New York, a liaison office in Bonn and presences in Kobe, (Japan), Suva, (Fiji), Incheon, (Republic of Korea), Almaty, (Kazakhstan) and Rio (Brazil).

Disaster risk reduction goal

UNISDR vision is a world where the social, political and economic imperatives for reducing disaster risk are acted on. UNISDR mission is to connect governments and partners; to produce evidence for disaster risk reduction; to mobilize decision and opinion makers; and to support strengthening of the resilience of nations and communities to disasters and the impacts of climate change.



Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

- All UN General Assembly Resolutions pertaining to UNISDR can be found at <http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/resolutions-reports>
- Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2012: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA): <http://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/hfa>
- Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (A/RES/66/288 - The Future We Want, articles 165-168: <http://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/2302358.29949379.html>
- Additional information regarding the mandate of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction can be found at <http://www.unisdr.org/who-we-are/international-strategy-for-disaster-reduction>

Highlights of impact since 2011

At the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in June, disaster risk management was embedded in the outcome document, “The Future We Want”, as an imperative for sustainable development. It included an endorsement of the need to incorporate the reduction of disaster risk into sustainable development frameworks.

In 2012, the UN General Assembly requested UNISDR to facilitate consultations for the post-2015 successor to the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015. Over 2012, consultations on the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (“HFA2”) were organized involving a series of meetings and events and an Advisory Group was established. The culmination of the first phase of the consultations (from March 2012 to May 2013) are reflected in a Synthesis Report at the Fourth Session of the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction in May 2013.

The Global Assessment Reports (GAR11 and GAR13) highlight the political and economic imperative to reduce disaster risks, and the benefits to be gained from doing so. Over 130 countries are now reporting on implementation progress in the HFA Monitor, which helps them to identify their own gaps and needs when it comes to reducing disaster losses and building the resilience of their communities. Information on progress against the HFA and other disaster risk reduction information is made available on the common portal www.preventionweb.org.



The Making Cities Resilient Campaign exemplifies the “multiplier effect” of UNISDR’s work. In 2012, the campaign exceeded its targets for mobilizing new members. 389 cities and municipalities joined the Campaign in 2012, bringing the total number of signatories to 1,289 in more than 85 countries since its launch in 2010. Many self-organized assessment missions and city-to-city learning events took place over the year.

The Regional Platforms and other high-level regional gatherings showed their worth in building understanding and galvanizing action around disaster risk reduction and development, bringing together diverse stakeholders who otherwise would be addressing the issues in isolation.

An example of this impact was the Fifth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, in October 2012, which the President of Indonesia opened with a strong call for action. This event was attended by 2,500 delegates from 72 countries. The Conference Declaration called on countries to integrate local-level disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into national development planning, strengthen local risk governance and partnerships, and identify accountability measures for more effective implementation of a post-2015 disaster risk reduction framework.

Other regional platforms include, the Regional Platform for the Americas in November, the third annual meeting of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction, in October 2012, and the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management in September 2012, which assessed the implementation of existing regional mechanisms for disaster climate change risk management. In 2013 regional platforms were held in Africa and in the Arab States.

Under the auspices of the UN System High Level Committee on Programmes (HCLP), the SRSG to convene a senior management group to prepare a UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience that embeds disaster risk reduction more securely in UN policies and programmes. The Action Plan was developed in the last quarter of 2012 with the active involvement of 29 UN agencies and was endorsed by the Chief Executives Board (CEB) in April 2013.

UNISDR, through its Regional Offices worked with Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams to integrate disaster and climate change risk management in UN Development Action Frameworks (UNDAF). In 2012, Bolivia, Cameroon, India, Jordan, Moldova, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri-Lanka, Sudan and Togo approved new UNDAFs that feature disaster risk reduction as critical for development planning. The number of UNDAFs referencing disaster risk reduction in the Americas has increased from three to ten: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico, Peru and Jamaica.



Since the formal approval by the UN of the operational guidelines for integrating disaster risk management into UNDAFs in 2009, 54 countries have drawn up such plans. Over half of the plans have extensively incorporated disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

As an example of on-going UN coordination efforts, in Asia, UNISDR's Offices worked with UN Country Teams to develop Strategic Action Plans, review country progress in recovery planning, and refine the UN Strategic Framework in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines and Vietnam, along with a new regional UNDAF in the Pacific, which features key disaster risk reduction elements. Stronger cooperation with UNDP and UN Resident Coordinators proved valuable in Djibouti, Lebanon and Mauritania, where it enabled UNISDR to strengthen disaster risk reduction implementation.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- In-depth study on the role of the United Nations contribution to the implementation of the HFA, 2012, Reports: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications/27854>
- UNISDR Annual report 2011, and 2012: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications/27627>
- UN system task team on the post-2015 UN development agenda: disaster risk resilience, 2012: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications/27462>
- Global Assessment Report, 2012: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/gar>
- Third session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Reconstruction Conference proceedings: <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=22420>
- Towards a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, 2012: http://www.unisdr.org/files/25129_towardsapost2015frameworkfordisaste.pdf
- How to make cities more resilient: a handbook for local government leaders, 2012: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications/26462>



- A resilient future: UNISDR statement on zero draft of the outcome document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) 'The future we want', 2012: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications/24941>

For full list, see: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications?p=2#p>

Memberships in key networks

- Inter-Agency Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (IAG)
- Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR)
- International Recovery Platform (IRP)
- Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS)
- Thematic Platform on Knowledge and Education (check name)
- Global Wildland Fire Network (GFMC)
- International Consortium of Landslides (ICL)
- International Flood Initiative (IFI)
- Global Earthquake Model (GEM)
- Thematic Platform on DRR and Health

National counterpart

National focal points for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action

Executive head

Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction

Focal points

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UNITAR

United Nations Institute for Training
and Research

UNITAR

General description of the organization

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is making concrete contributions to developing the capacities of tens of thousands of people in member states around the world. Since its inception in 1965, UNITAR has built sustainable partnerships, acquiring unique expertise and accumulating experience and knowledge to fulfil its mandate. These accomplishments have enabled UNITAR to respond to the growing demand from UN Member States for training for capacity development in the fields of Environment, Peace, Security and Diplomacy, and Governance. UNITAR also researches technology applications and knowledge systems innovation to bring to the UN system and its member states a distinctive advantage in learning and capacity development.

Disaster risk reduction goal

In keeping with its mandate and competencies, the goal of UNITAR in DRR is to contribute directly to the transfer to Member States and national experts of the skills and knowledge necessary to implement at national and local levels the policies and guidelines elaborated at global level, thus providing actionable leverage to increase resilience.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

UNOSAT satellite analysis included in ISDR-ESCAP regional report on DRR.

UNITAR statement made at the 3rd Session of the Global Platform for DRR: <http://www.preventionweb.net/files/globalplatform/statementunitaratglobalplatform2011.pdf>

Highlights of impact since 2011

Since 2011, UNOSAT trained over 300 professionals through specialized training in the use of space applications and geo-spatial information for disaster preparedness and response, and territorial planning for DRR.



Geo-information and thus the trainings delivered by UNOSAT have direct impact on all the phases of the disaster cycle and thus on the five HFA Priority of Action.

UNOSAT is currently running in:

- Asia: two regional training courses and two national training courses.
- Central America: one in-country capacity development programme.
- The Middle East: one regional training for Gulf Countries in association with ISDR Cairo.
- Africa: one regional capacity development in association with IGAD.

UNOSAT is also collaborating with Universities up to Masters level: two three-week master level training courses in the use of GIS and satellite analysis for disaster management (Universities of Copenhagen and Lund). Knowledge sharing: specialized sessions and modules conducted in collaboration with University of Geneva, Duke University, UN System Staff College.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

The flagship “National Chemicals Management Profile” guidance document was updated in 2012 to include a new chapter on “Chemical Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Follow-up”: http://www2.unitar.org/cwm/publications/cw/inp/np_gd_%28Second_Edition%29_Eng_Final_March_2012.pdf

Membership in key networks

- International Charter Space and Major Disasters
- Integrated Flood Management Helpdesk
- GEO – Group on Earth Observations
- Post Disaster Needs Assessment - PDNA Cooperation agreement UN-WB-European Commission
- Partners with regional organization as Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), and Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) for implementation of regional DRR project respectively in Southeast Asia and east Africa
- Contributes to the implementation of the ESCAP led Asia-Pacific plan of Action for Applications of Space Technology and Geographic Information Systems for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development, 2012-2017



- UN user intermediary for the triggering of the International Space and Major Disasters
- Support based partner of the Integrated Flood Management Helpdesk

National counterpart

Various ministries, local authorities, universities, civil society and private sector.

Executive head

Ms. Sally Fegan-Wyles, UN Assistant Secretary-General, Executive Director ad interim

Focal points

Climate Change Programme, Local Development Programme, and Operational Satellite Applications Programme UNOSAT (unosat@unitar.org, Tel: +41 22 766 23 24), www.unitar.org/unosat

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UN-OHRLLS

Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

General description of the organization

UN-OHRLLS, established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2001, advocates for the least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS). UN-OHRLLS coordinates and mobilizes international support and resources for the implementation of: 1) the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) for the Least Developed Countries 2011 - 2020, adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Istanbul 2011; 2) the Almaty Declaration and Programme of Action for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries (APoA); and 3) the Mauritius Strategy for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (MSI), adopted in Mauritius in 2005.

Disaster risk reduction goal

Ensure that in the post-2015 development agenda and second phase of the Hyogo Framework for Action, the resilience of LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS – the most vulnerable countries, most prone to natural disasters, with the least capacity to respond – is strengthened and their disaster risk is reduced. UN-OHRLLS is also guided by key elements in the IPoA, MSI and Rio+20 outcomes, as pertaining to disaster risk reduction.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

The international community acknowledges that disaster risk reduction is a priority area for action, as reflected in the LDCs IPoA and the SIDS MSI. The most vulnerable countries, LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS are highly susceptible to disasters, given their geographic locations and the structural constraints, handicaps and daunting reconstruction challenges they face in a post disaster and recovery phase. Hence UN-OHRLLS continues to place high



priority and great emphasis on this issue when advocating on behalf of these three groups of countries at national, regional and international levels.

- Least Developed Countries, Things to Know, Things to Do
<http://www.unohrlls.org/UserFiles/File/LDC%20Documents/Advocacy%20brochure%20english%20for%20web.pdf>
- Small Islands Big(ger) Stakes www.unohrlls.org/UserFiles/File/UN_SIDS_booklet_5x6-5_062811_web.pdf
- The Impact of Climate Change on the Development Prospects of the Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States
<http://www.unohrlls.org/UserFiles/File/LDC%20Documents/The%20impact%20of%20CC%20on%20LDCs%20and%20SIDS%20for%20web.pdf>
- LLDC – GA resolution www.unohrlls.org/UserFiles/File/A%20RES%2065%20172%20ENGLISH.pdf
- SG report Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, <http://www.unohrlls.org/UserFiles/File/LLDC%20Documents/67%2010%20English.pdf>

Highlights of impact since 2011

In May 2013, UN-OHRLLS will partner with UNISDR to convene a Featured Event on SIDS and disaster risk reduction at the Fourth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. OHRLLS is currently preparing a report on the “Impact of climate change, desertification and land degradation on the development prospects of LLDCs”, due out in June 2013, and will also organise a pre-conference (Ten Year Comprehensive Review Conference on the Almaty Programme of Action, 2014) event on the same issue to discuss the best strategies to strengthen the resilience of LLDCs.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Least Developed Countries, Things to Know, Things to Do
- Small Islands Big(ger) Stakes
- LLDCs - GA resolution A/RES/65/172 and Report of the Secretary General A/67/210



National counterpart

Collaborates with national focal points in the LDCs towards implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action.

Executive head

Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative

Focal points

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Websites

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UNOOSA

United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs

UNOOSA

General description of the organization

The overall purpose of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs is the promotion of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space for economic, social and scientific development, in particular for the benefit of developing countries. The Office has been mandated to:

- Service the intergovernmental process;
- Discharge the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the United Nations Treaties and Principles on Outer Space;
- Implement the United Nations Programme on Space Applications;
- Coordinate space-related activities within the United Nations system; and
- Implement the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER).

UN-SPIDER was established through General Assembly resolution 61/110 and aims to ensure that all countries, as well as international and regional organizations, have access to, and develop the capacity to use all types of space-based information to support the full disaster management cycle.

Disaster risk reduction goal

While the Office has no specific mandate on disaster risk reduction and resilience, it is aware of the need to promote international cooperation in the use of outer space to achieve development goals for the benefit of humankind.

The Office aims to:

- Strengthen capacities of Member States to use space science and technology and their applications in areas related to sustainable development;



- Promote greater understanding, acceptance and commitment in accessing and developing capacity to use space-based information to support the full disaster management cycle; and
- Promote greater understanding and use of Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) applications to support sustainable development goals.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

The Office is responsible for a variety of official publications on behalf of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), and such publications make reference to the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications in disaster risk reduction and sustainable development. Many publications appear as Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations (for example: A/RES/67/113, A/RES/66/71, A/RES/65/97, A/RES/64/86, etc.). Reports of COPUOS include the need to devote effort to the use of space-based applications and space-based information to support disaster-risk reduction efforts (see for example: A/67/20; A/66/20; A/65/20; A/64/20 etc.).

UN-SPIDER also generates a variety of official reports and publications that include the issue of disaster risk reduction. Its annual reports to COPUOS make reference to the activities that the Programme conducts in all regions of the world with the aim of strengthening capacities of Member States to make use of space-based information in all phases of the disaster management cycle (for example: A/AC.105/1029, A/AC.105/1027, A/AC.105/1023, A/AC.105/1010, A/AC.105/1009, A/AC.105/1007, etc.). In addition, UN-SPIDER produces on a regular basis newsletters and publications such as booklets aiming to promote the use of space-based information.

Among these, a booklet entitled *Geo-Information for Disaster and Risk Management: Examples and Best Practices* was elaborated by UNOOSA and the Joint Board of Geospatial Information Societies (JBGIS). This booklet contains a variety of relevant articles and a foreword by Ms. Margareta Wahlström, the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction. It can be downloaded at: <http://www.un-spider.org/about/portfolio/publications/jbgis-unoosa-booklet>.

The Programme operates the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal, which serves as a gateway to a variety of scientific and technical articles, proceedings, documents and information concerning the use of space-based information to support efforts in all phases of the disaster management cycle: www.un-spider.org.



Highlights of impact since 2011

Since 2011, the UN-SPIDER Programme has conducted more than 10 Technical Advisory Missions to Member States in Asia, Latin America and Africa with the support of experts from the space, the disaster risk management and the emergency response communities. These have facilitated the identification of lessons learned and the outlining of recommendations that, when implemented, will allow government agencies, academia and the private sector within these Member States to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the space community to carry out activities related to Key Priority Areas 2, 3, 4 and 5. Of particular relevance is the identification of approaches on how to make use of space-based information to:

- Contribute to improved risk assessments;
- Identify measures aimed to reduce existing risks;
- Control the potential increase of risks.

In addition, the Programme carries out training activities to increase the skills and knowledge of staff members in government agencies responsible for disaster-risk management efforts, contributing to Key Priority Area 3. Regional training courses were conducted in India, Burkina Faso and Mexico in 2011, and in India, Sri Lanka, Cameroon and Myanmar in 2012. UN-SPIDER has also supported training efforts organized by partner organizations, either through the provision of experts or through the mobilization of participants.

Since 2012, the Programme and its network of Regional Support Offices have been developing step-by-step methodologies to make use of archived satellite imagery to track how land-use changes in recent decades have modified the spatial and temporal behaviour of three hazards: floods, droughts and forest fires.

These “UN-SPIDER Recommended Practices” will allow experts working on hazard assessment to generate policy-relevant information on how development trends may have influenced these hazards in a negative way. It will assist them to design means to control such negative trends, including consideration of land-use planning. In a similar way, the use of archived imagery will allow disaster-risk managers to track increases in the exposure of vulnerable assets and communities to hazards, thereby providing policy-relevant information to decision makers on how to limit this exposure. Such efforts are directly linked to Key Priority Areas 2 and 4.



Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

Official Reports submitted to COPUOS:

- Official Documents: A/AC.105/1029; A/AC.105/1027; A/AC.105/1023; A/AC.105/1010; A/AC.105/1009 and A/AC.105/1007.
- Proceedings of the UN-SPIDER 4th Bonn Workshop:
<http://www.un-spider.org/4c-challenge-communication-coordination-cooperation-capacity-development>

Articles targeting disaster-risk reduction:

Newsletters:

- March 2012 issue: <http://www.un-spider.org/about/newsletter/un-spider-newsletter-technical-advisory-support>; India: Training on the use of space technology (article on training in “Space technology applications in Disaster Risk Reduction”).
- May 2011 issue: <http://www.un-spider.org/about/newsletter/may-2011>; Regional answers to global challenges: UN-SPIDER contributes to workshop on global environmental change and water-related diseases in Uzbekistan (article on Workshop “Improving risk assessment strategies for public health care in Uzbekistan”); Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (article on the Third session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction); UN-SPIDER Side Event at the Third Global Platform.
- January 2011 issue: <http://www.un-spider.org/about/newsletter/january-2011>; Regional workshop and national seminars with the risk and disaster management communities in Madagascar and Malawi (article on DIPECHO trainings).

Memberships in key networks

- International Charter Space and Major Disasters (Cooperating Body)
- United Nations Geographic Information Working Group (UNGIWG) Co-Chair 2009-2010
- Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (Secretariat and Coordination)
- GEO – Group on Earth Observations



- Regional and Global Platforms established by UNISDR as vehicles to thrust the Hyogo Framework for Action
- SPIDER Global Thematic Partnership on the use of Space-Based Information for Disaster Risk Management – UN-SPIDER established it in 2009. The Partnership has organized special and side events during the sessions of the Regional Platforms, as well as during the sessions of the Global Platform in 2009 and 2011

National counterpart

Space agencies and institutions using space-based information and solutions.

National Focal Points (NFPs) nominated by their respective governments for UN-SPIDER are being established in Members States to strengthen national disaster management planning and policies and the implementation of specific national activities that incorporate space-based technology solutions to support disaster management. Efforts are being made to synchronize the list of NFPs with the one of UN-ISDR.

In addition, UN-SPIDER builds partnerships for the implementation of its work programme with a network of 15 Regional Support Offices (RSO) which are existing national or regional entities from the Earth observation sector or with authority in disaster management.

Executive head

Ms. Mazlan Othman, Director

Focal points

While the Office may have used the notion of the focal point in the 1990s, since the beginning of the new millennium efforts have been conducted to establish a programme entirely dedicated to the promotion of the use of space-based information, covering all phases of the disaster management cycle.



The United Nations Platform on Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2006 (A/RES/61/110). The UN-SPIDER Programme is coordinated by UNOOSA in Vienna, Austria and has Offices in Beijing, China; and Bonn, Germany.

Mr. Luc St-Pierre, Senior Programme Officer, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (luc.st-pierre@unoosa.org)

Mr. Shirish Ravan, Head, UN-SPIDER Beijing Office
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Mr. Juan Carlos Villagrán de León, Head, UN-SPIDER Bonn Office
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United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), UN-SPIDER
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Websites

- www.unoosa.org (contains information on UNOOSA's activities and links to all official publications)
- www.un-spider.org (a gateway to space-based information to support efforts covering all phases of the disaster management cycle)

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**UNOPS****UNOPS**

United Nations Office for Project Services

UNOPS

General description of the organization

UNOPS has been mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to be a central resource for the United Nations system in procurement, contracts management, civil works and physical infrastructure development, including the related capacity development activities.

UNOPS is an operational arm of the United Nations, supporting a range of partners in the implementation of around \$1 billion worth of peace-building, humanitarian and development projects in more than 80 countries. UNOPS provides sustainable project management, infrastructure and procurement services that range from managing the construction of roads in Afghanistan to building shelters in Haiti and purchasing pharmaceuticals in Argentina. By managing around 1,000 projects for its partners at any given time, UNOPS makes significant, tangible contributions to results on the ground. A focus on high-quality results is built into the culture of UNOPS, with the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainability core to its work.

Disaster risk reduction goal

UNOPS aims to create safer communities by expanding the capacity of the UN system, governments and other partners to implement disaster risk reduction activities that systematically build the resilience of nations and communities vulnerable to disasters. To achieve this goal, the organization focuses on infrastructure-based services with community involvement and institutional strengthening.



Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

- UNOPS contribution to disaster risk reduction
<http://www.unops.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/Publications/UNOPS%20Contribution%20to%20Disaster%20Risk%20Reduction.pdf>
- UNOPS and disaster risk reduction
<https://www.unops.org/english/whatwedo/focus-areas/physical-infrastructure/Pages/UNOPS-and-disaster-risk-reduction.aspx>
- UNOPS policy for sustainable infrastructure
http://www.unops.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/Publications/Rio+20/unops_policy_for_sustainable_infrastructure.pdf
- UNOPS annual brochure 2012, Delivering Sustainable Results
http://www.unops.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/Annual%20reports%20-%203%20languages/Annual%20brochure_UNOPS_2011_EN_web.pdf

Highlights of impact since 2011

UNOPS contribution to disaster risk reduction (DRR) is twofold. UNOPS is dedicated to delivering sustainable results, ensuring that whenever possible DRR measures are incorporated in all the projects that it implements. Moreover, the organization uses its experience in both structural resilience building (e.g. resilient infrastructure services based on sound risk assessments) and non-structural resilience building (e.g. early warning systems, community participation and training) to function as a relevant implementing partner for specific infrastructure-based DRR services.

In relation to HFA priority 4 (reduce the underlying risk factors) UNOPS has developed a sustainable infrastructure policy, which reflects its commitment to ensuring that all of its work adheres to and promotes the highest possible international standards and quality. UNOPS has managed the design and construction of infrastructure projects such as schools, roads, bridges and hospitals to the highest standards, able to withstand extreme weather events.



UNOPS has also supported HFA priorities 2 and 5, by helping several partner countries monitor and prepare for recurring natural hazards, ranging from keeping mountain passes cleared of snow in Afghanistan, with funding from Japan, to supporting seismic monitoring in Argentina, for the Government.

Moreover, UNOPS supports HFA priorities 3 and 5 through capacity development and community awareness activities. In 2011, almost 90 per cent of its projects concerning natural disasters included elements that focused on developing national capacity of communities, labourers or institutions. The organization has managed the direct training of more than 170,000 people to help build the resilience of communities to natural hazards. In Afghanistan for example, villagers of both sexes were taught how to limit flooding by building retaining walls in projects that supported gender empowerment and gave villagers a marketable skill, on behalf of the governments of Italy and Japan.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- UNOPS contribution to disaster risk reduction
<http://www.unops.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/Publications/UNOPS%20Contribution%20to%20Disaster%20Risk%20Reduction.pdf>
- UNOPS policy for sustainable infrastructure
http://www.unops.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/Publications/Rio+20/unops_policy_for_sustainable_infrastructure.pdf

Membership in key networks

- Inter-Agency Group (IAG)

Executive head

Mr. Jan Mattsson, Executive Director

Focal points

DRR focal points

Mr. Rainer Frauenfeld, Principal Adviser Disaster Programmes,
 HQ – Copenhagen, Denmark (rainerf@unops.org)



Ms. Michelle Krogh, Programme Development Officer, HQ – Copenhagen, Denmark (michellek@unops.org)

Regional focal points

Asia-Pacific: Mr. Jeffrey Crawford, Regional Programme Development Officer, Sustainable Development Advisor, Bangkok, Thailand (jeffreyc@unops.org)

Latin America: Mr. Mikkel Broholt, International Consultant, Panama City, Panama (mikkelb@unops.org)

Africa: Ms. Cecilia Lopez y Royo, Regional Environment Specialist, Nairobi, Kenya (cecilial@unops.org)

Websites

- www.unops.org
- www.unops.org/english/whatwedo/focus-areas/physical-infrastructure/Pages/UNOPS-and-disaster-risk-reduction.aspx

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UNU

United Nations University

UNU

General description of the organization

The overarching goal of the United Nations University is to contribute to global sustainable development that will enable present generations to live a decent life in peace, in freedom, in safety, and in good health, without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same. In pursuit of this ideal, the UN University employs a systems-oriented, interdisciplinary, problem-solving approach that integrates the methodological rigor of the natural and physical sciences with the insights of the social sciences and humanities.

The programme space within which UNU undertakes its academic activities encompasses five interdependent thematic clusters within the overarching thesis of “sustainability”:

- Population and Health;
- Development Governance;
- Peace, Security and Human Rights;
- Global Change and Sustainable Development;
- Science, Technology and Society.

These five thematic clusters, and the topics of focus that they encompass, are interlinked and interdependent in the sense that none can be addressed in isolation.

Disaster risk reduction goal

Some of the UNU Institutes have at the core of their mandate to contribute to disaster risk reduction and increase resilience of exposed communities. Notably, the UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security addresses the risk and vulnerability aspects of human security and the consequences of complex environmental hazards for sustainable development.



Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

1. Evidence from the Frontlines of Climate Change: Loss and Damage to Communities Despite Coping and Adaptation

<http://ehs.unu.edu/file/get/10584.pdf>

Reference: Warner, K., Van Der Geest, K., Kreft, S., Huq, S., Harmeling, S., Kusters, K., and A. De Sherbinin (2012): Evidence from the Frontlines of Climate Change: Loss and Damage to Communities Despite Coping and Adaptation. Loss and Damage in Vulnerable Countries Initiative. Policy Report. Report No. 9. Bonn: United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).

2. MCII Policy Brief 2012: Insurance Solutions in the Context of Climate Change Related Loss and Damage.

http://www.climate-insurance.org/upload/pdf/20121112_MCII_PolicyBrief_2012_screen#pdf

Reference: Warner, K., Kreft, S., Zissener, M., Hoeppe P., Bals, C., Loster, T., Linnerooth-Bayer, J., Tschudi, S., Gurenko, E., Haas, A., Young, S., Kovacs, P., Dlugolecki, A., Oxley A. (2012). Insurance solutions in the context of climate change-related loss and damage: Needs, gaps, and roles of the Convention in addressing loss and damage. Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII) submission to the SBI Work Programme on Loss and Damage, October 2012. Policy Brief No. 6. Bonn: United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).

3. World Risk Report 2012: Focus: Environmental degradation and disasters.

<http://www.ehs.unu.edu/file/get/10487.pdf>

Reference: Alliance Development works, UNU-EHS and The Nature Conservancy (2012). World Risk Report 2012: Focus: Environmental degradation and disasters.

Highlights of impact since 2011

HFA Priority for Action 2: Risk assessment and early warning systems

Research in Africa, Asia and Europe on vulnerability, resilience and risk assessment. The work consists in developing new assessment concepts and frameworks, as well as assessing risks to environmental hazards.



HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

Joint International MSc Programme on the Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security. The joint international MSc Programme, developed by the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and the University of Bonn is expected to launch in October 2013. The main purpose of the MSc Programme is to educate students on how to investigate and manage various resources related to environmental hazards by implementing science-based principles and methodologies in disaster risk management.

UNU-EHS PhD Block Courses: From Vulnerability to Resilience in Disaster Risk Management. The UNU-EHS PhD Block Courses highlight the complexity and importance of vulnerability and resilience in disaster risk management. They are offered every year in collaboration with the University of Bonn; Germany, as well as with the Disaster Management Training and Education Centre for Africa (DiMTEC), University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa. The courses are designed for postgraduate candidates in the early stages of PhD research (or about to begin PhD studies) and advanced Master's degree students.

West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) Graduate Research Programme. Starting in 2013 UNU-EHS is contributing to the WASCAL Graduate Research Programme, which is supporting and facilitating academic education amongst West African universities, in association with German counterpart institutions. Out of a total of nine different PhD and Master programmes, UNU-EHS actively supports the following programmes: Climate Change and Human Security (University of Lomé, Togo); and Climate Change and Education (University of The Gambia, Serrekunda, Gambia).

HFA Priority for Action 4: Reducing underlying risk factors

The Climate Risk Adaptation and Insurance in the Caribbean project led by the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII), in St. Lucia and Jamaica, implements parametric insurance products for people in the low income sector to help them cope with losses to their livelihoods caused by excess rain and heavy winds.

UNU-EHS contributes scientific knowledge and capacity development modules as part of the Partnership for Ecosystems and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR).



Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Kienberger, S., Castellano, A., Zeil, P., Raulin, A. & Szarzynski, J. (2011): When Disaster Strikes... Geoinformation for Disaster Risk Reduction in South East Africa. GEOConnexion International Magazine. Cambridge, UK, pp 38-40.
- Kussul N., Mandl D., Moe K., Mund J.-P., Post J., Shelestov A., Skakun S., Szarzynski J., Van Langenhove G. (2012): "Interoperable Infrastructure for Flood Monitoring: Sensor Web, Grid & Cloud", IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Applied Earth Observations and Remote Sensing (J-STARS), Vol. 99, pp: 1-6.
- Renaud FG, Sudmeier-Rieux K and Estrella M (eds.) (2013): The role of ecosystems for in disaster risk reduction. UNU-Press (forthcoming).
- Warner, K., Van Der Geest, K., Kreft, S., Huq, S., Harmeling, S., Kusters, K., and A. De Sherbinin (2012): Evidence from the Frontlines of Climate Change: Loss and Damage to Communities Despite Coping and Adaptation. Loss and Damage in Vulnerable Countries Initiative. Policy Report. Report No. 9. Bonn: United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).
- WorldRisk Report 2011 and WorldRisk Report 2012 (for the latter see <http://www.ehs.unu.edu/file/get/10487.pdf>)
- Warner, K., Kreft, S., Zissener, M., Hoeppe P., Bals, C., Loster, T., Linnerooth-Bayer, J., Tschudi, S., Gurenko, E., Haas, A., Young, S., Kovacs, P., Dlugolecki, A., Oxley A. (2012). Insurance solutions in the context of climate change-related loss and damage: Needs, gaps, and roles of the Convention in addressing loss and damage. Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII) submission to the SBI Work Programme on Loss and Damage, October 2012. Policy Brief No. 6. Bonn: United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).



Memberships in key networks

- International Flood Initiative (IFI)
- International Programme on Landslides (IPL)
- Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM)
- Global Risk Identification Programme (GRIP)
- Global Environment Fund (GEF)
- International Council for Science (ICSU)
- International Consortium of Landslides (ICL)
- DesertNet International (<http://www.desertnet-international.org>)
- Group on Earth Observation (GEO) - Institutions and Development Implementation Board (http://www.earthobservations.org/bo_id.shtml)
- Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII)
- Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction
- In the year 2007 alone, UNU worked with almost 50 UN system partners.

National counterpart

National universities, research institutions, ministries, depending on the system of governance and focus of the activities.

Executive head

Prof. David M Malone

Focal points

Dr. Fabrice Renaud, Head of Section, UNU-EHS, UN Campus, Hermann-Ehlers-Str. 10, 53113 Bonn, Germany (renaud@ehs.unu.edu)

Alternate: Dr. Joerg Szarzynski, Head of Section (same address as above, (szarzynski@ehs.unu.edu)

Websites

- <http://unu.edu>
- <http://www.ehs.unu.edu>

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UNV
United Nations Volunteers

General description of the organization

United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that contributes to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide. Volunteerism is a powerful means of engaging people in tackling development challenges, and it can transform the pace and nature of development. Volunteerism benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer by strengthening trust, solidarity and reciprocity among citizens, and by purposefully creating opportunities for participation.

UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for recognition of volunteers, working with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing an increasing number and diversity of volunteers, including experienced UN Volunteers, globally. UNV embraces volunteerism as universal and inclusive, and recognizes volunteerism in its diversity as well as the values that sustain it: free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity.

UNV mobilizes around 8,000 UN Volunteers annually, of which one third volunteer within their own countries. Almost 80 per cent come from developing countries.

Disaster risk reduction goal

To mobilize volunteers and strengthen volunteerism initiatives in support of disaster risk reduction and management, especially to strengthen community capacity to respond to and prevent disasters, building upon the innate social capital, capacity and culture, and the ancient traditions of self-help, goodwill and solidarity that exists in every community.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

UNV: Statement made at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (2011), <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/policies/v.php?id=21927>



Highlights of impact since 2011

UNV works with governments to develop volunteer infrastructure for disaster risk reduction, and on management that could support, for example, the mobilization of volunteers, coordinate the activities of volunteer involving organizations, promote good volunteer management, advocate for the value of volunteerism, and develop a database of volunteers.

UNV supports the creation of early warning systems through the establishment of disaster management teams, and ensuring community participation by training volunteers in local and rural communities. UNV builds expertise in coping capacity in countries such as India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and Brazil.

UN Volunteers assist the mobilization of individuals ensuring wide dissemination of information, public awareness and strong community voluntary action. UNV supports the production and roll-out of village and provincial disaster risk management plans ensuring full ownership of communities.

UN Volunteers provide a vital link between governments and affected communities, empowering them to participate actively in rehabilitation and sustainable livelihoods. UNV supported community reconstruction in tsunami-affected areas through the involvement of national and international UN Volunteers.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, UNV is developing a strategy to strengthen the role of volunteers in sustainable risk reduction and recovery programmes in a number of countries. These national projects focus on:

1. Increasing the capacities of volunteers and Volunteer Involving Organizations (VIOs) to better respond to disasters;
2. Integrating volunteers and VIOs in DRR strategies;
3. Piloting emergency plans with the involvement of VIOs. This project also aims to identify best practices and lessons learned at the regional level.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- State of the world's volunteerism report 2011: universal values for global well-being, www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=24446



- Practice Note: Contribution of Volunteerism to Disaster Risk Reduction, 2012, www.unv.org/en/how-to-volunteer/register-to-be-a-un-volunteer/disasterconflict-prevention-recovery/doc/practice-note-contribution-of.html
- Practice note: Contribution of volunteerism to natural resource management and community-based approaches to climate change, 2012, www.unv.org/en/news-resources/resources/on-volunteerism/unv-practice-notes/doc/practice-note-contribution-of-2.html
- UNV in action: Disaster response, 2012, www.unv.org/en/news-resources/resources/on-volunteerism/good-examples/doc/unv-in-action-disaster.html
- UNV in action: Natural resource management and community-based approaches to climate change, 2012, www.unv.org/en/news-resources/resources/on-volunteerism/good-examples/doc/unv-in-action-natural.html

National counterpart

At the country level, UNV is officially represented through the UNDP Resident Representative. In approximately 100 countries UNV has a Field Unit (FU), which is part of the UNDP Country Office. Volunteers could be placed with all UN entities and with government counterparts.

Executive head

Mr. Richard Dictus, Executive Coordinator

Focal points

Relevant Section: Development Division

Websites

- www.unvolunteers.org
- www.WorldVolunteerWeb.org
- www.OnlineVolunteering.org
- www.volunteeractioncounts.org

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UN WOMEN
United Nations Women

UN WOMEN

General description of the organization

In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. UN Women, grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. Placing women's rights at the centre of all its efforts, UN Women leads and coordinates the efforts of the United Nations system to ensure that commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming translate into action throughout the world. It provides strong and coherent leadership in support of Member States' priorities and efforts, building effective partnerships with civil society and other relevant actors. The main roles of UN Women are:

- To support inter-governmental bodies, such as the Commission on the Status of Women, in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms;
- To help Member States to implement these standards, standing ready to provide suitable technical and financial support to those countries that request it, and to forge effective partnerships with civil society;
- To hold the UN system accountable for its own commitments on gender equality, including regular monitoring of system-wide progress.

Disaster risk reduction goal

UN Women seeks to support inter-governmental bodies and forums, Member States and other UN Agencies and Entities in serving their respective commitments to integrate gender equality and women's empowerment in the formulation of policies, standards and norms related to disaster risk reduction.



It supports implement of these in a gender-responsive way that ensures accountability to, active participation of and sustained results for women, girls, boys and men of all ages that are in risk of and/or are affected by disaster.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

- Beijing Platform of Action (1995):
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/>
- Hyogo Framework of Action (2005):
<http://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/hfa>

Highlights of impact since 2011

Disaster Risk Reduction is an emerging issue for UN Women and is situated within the context of its mandate for humanitarian action, which includes disaster risk reduction, disaster preparedness, disaster response and early recovery. UN Women has recently established the UN Women on Gender and Humanitarian Unit, which, amongst other things, will consolidate and build on the work on gender and DRR already being undertaken by UN Women's field and regional level offices. The main focus of the Unit is to support DRR actors to implement commitments to gender equality in DRR, preparedness, response and early recovery already committed to by Member States under the Beijing Platform for Action, and the follow-up reviews and appraisals of its implementation, the Hyogo Framework Agreement and its "Words into Action" (2007) guidelines, as well as the recently agreed Resolution 56/2 'Gender equality and the empowerment of women in natural disasters' (2012). Furthermore, UN Women is focusing on ensuring the integration of gender equality and women's empowerment in the implementation of the new United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for Resilience, and the development of a post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Since 2011, UN Women has focused on raising awareness of the gender dimensions in dealing with disasters, as well as exploring the relationship between such disasters and sustainable development from a gender perspective.

At the regional and country levels, work has already been carried out in Pakistan, Mozambique, Vietnam and the Pacific.

In the Pacific, UN Women, in collaboration with OCHA and with the support of GenCap Advisers, organized a training to address the challenges of DRR. The 53 actions and entry points identified during the training are now informing UN Women's planning processes.



UN Women is currently developing a major regional programme on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management.

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Membership in key networks

- Co-chair of IASC Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action
- Gender Based Violence Area of Responsibility
- IASC-Cluster Working Group on Early Recovery (CWGER)

Executive head

Ms. Michelle Bachelet, Executive Director, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations

Focal points

- Ms. Siobhán Foran, Gender and Humanitarian Unit, UN Women Programme Directorate (siobhan.foran@unwomen.org, Tel: +1 646 781-4400, Fax: +1 646 781-4444)
- IASC Working-group on Gender and Humanitarian Action: <http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/themes/gender>

Websites

- www.unwomen.org

Contact details

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WFP

World Food Programme

WFP

General description of the organization

WFP is the specialized food assistance organization of the United Nations, and it is the largest humanitarian organization focusing on food security worldwide. WFP meets emergency needs, supports economic and social development, and promotes world food security. Every year, WFP provides food assistance to around 100 million people in nearly 80 countries, focusing in the most vulnerable and food insecure communities worldwide.

WFP pursues a vision of the world in which every man, woman and child has access at all times to the food needed for an active and healthy life. WFP works towards that vision with its sister UN agencies in Rome – the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) – as well as other government, UN and NGO partners.

WFP plays a major role in addressing emergency relief, transitional and development challenges and opportunities with a specific focus on protecting lives and livelihoods, and strengthening resilience at the local and national level. WFP gives priority to supporting disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation and post-disaster rehabilitation activities as part of development programmes. Approximately half of all WFP programmes support activities that enhance disaster risk reduction, resilience building and climate risk management.

Disaster risk reduction goal

WFP's 2008-2013 Strategic Plan reflects the changing nature of food assistance and hunger. It marks a historical shift from WFP as a food aid agency to WFP as a food assistance agency, with a more nuanced and robust set of tools to respond to critical hunger needs. The overarching goal of this Strategic Plan is to reduce dependency and to support governmental and global efforts to ensure more resilient livelihoods and long-term solutions to the hunger challenge.



As part of the Strategic Objective 2, WFP aims to prevent acute hunger by investing in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures. WFP also contributes to strengthening the capacity of governments and local communities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to humanitarian crises.

WFP works with local, national and international partners to incorporate disaster prevention and mitigation activities in its Country Strategies, Country Programmes and Protracted Relief and Recovery Operations. While building community resilience for enhanced food and nutrition security has been a central objective of the works of WFP for decades, disaster risk reduction and management for enhanced resilience have recently been addressed by specific policy and programmatic efforts within the organization.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

WFP's current strategic framework, launched in 2008, includes a corporate Strategic Objective on disaster preparedness and mitigation, through implementation of disaster preparedness and mitigation measures in vulnerable settings, and by developing the capacities of governments and local communities to manage disaster and climate-related risks.

In addition to the strategic plan, the WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management: Building Food Security and Resilience (<https://www.wfp.org/content/wfp-policy-disaster-risk-reduction-and-management-%E2%80%93-brochure-version>) defines the organizations comparative advantages and priorities in disaster risk reduction, in support of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

A number of other policy documents and guidance documents have been developed to support this Strategic Objective:

Climate Change and Hunger: Towards a WFP Policy on Climate Change (<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/resources/wfp232740.pdf>). This document highlights that mainstreaming climate change and disaster risk reduction into WFP's operations will bring important returns on investment, in terms of enhanced food security and nutrition, more resilient livelihoods, and a reduced need for humanitarian interventions.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Package (EPRP, available on request).



WFP has also contributed to the Rio+20 Process by ensuring that food and nutrition security is part of the resilience and sustainable development agendas in the post-Rio+20 period. WFP's brochure for Rio+20: <http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp247805.pdf>

Highlights of impact since 2011

HFA Priority for Action 1: Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening

WFP provides policy support to governments, in the areas of disaster risk reduction and management, early warning systems, contingency planning, and resilience building.

HFA Priority for Action 2: Risk assessment and early warning systems

In more than 25 countries, WFP supports governments to implement advanced food security monitoring systems to track food security, nutrition, market indicators and natural hazards to provide effective analysis to support disaster preparedness, prevention and response, including through the activation of national social protection programmes and safety nets in support of the most vulnerable.

WFP works closely with government counterparts to develop innovative early warning systems. For example, in Ethiopia, WFP supports the implementation of LEAP. LEAP (Livelihoods, Early Assessment and Protection) is a food security early warning tool that integrates risk transfer mechanisms, such as weather index insurance, into traditional risk management and social protection schemes. The combination of these approaches improves the effectiveness of safety net programmes and reduces the negative impact of climate disasters on the most vulnerable people.

The capacity of governments to prepare for disasters is also strengthened through effective integration of contingency planning and early warning systems, with contingent finance to ensure resources are available when needed. These strategies represent a shift from traditional disaster response to more cost-effective disaster risk management approaches.

At the regional level, WFP also supports the development of early warning systems, collaborating with institutions such as the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).



WFP also participates in regional food security early warning systems such as the Greater Horn of Africa Food Security Outlook processes, which incorporate information about food security, nutrition, market situation, seasonal rainfall forecasts, and hazards to inform disaster preparedness interventions.

At the continental level, WFP is supporting the African Union to develop the African Risk Capacity (ARC). As an African-owned, continental index-based weather risk insurance pool and early response mechanism, ARC offers an African solution to one of the continent's most pressing challenges. By bringing together the concepts of insurance and contingency planning, ARC aims to create a new way of managing weather risk by transferring the burden away from African governments, and their vulnerable populations who depend on government assistance, to international financial markets.

HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

WFP works with the most vulnerable and food insecure communities to enhance their capacity to manage climate-related risks through food-for-training activities. Such activities include training in community-based disaster risk reduction techniques, and early warning systems.

HFA Priority for Action 4: Reducing underlying risk factors

Asset creation is a key component of WFP's strategy to reduce disaster risk. Working with governments and partner agencies, WFP implements asset creation activities that support a range of food security-related disaster risk reduction activities, such as soil and water conservation, the development and rehabilitation of flood protection infrastructure, and rehabilitation of roads, among others. Globally, these WFP-supported activities in support of disaster risk reduction directly assist over 20 million people in the most vulnerable and marginalized communities.

WFP supports the development of social protection mechanisms aimed at reducing the impact of disasters on livelihoods and food security. For example, in Uganda, in partnership with the Government and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), WFP established the Karamoja Productive Assets Programme (KPAP), which uses food assistance to meet seasonal food needs while building productive assets, such as new rainwater harvesting structures, which improve water availability for agricultural and livestock production and reduce the impact of drought on the most vulnerable lives and livelihoods.

WFP has significant capacity to respond to emergencies related to disasters.



Its emergency operations reduce the impact of disasters on food and nutrition security and help people start to recover. Whenever possible, these activities contribute to reducing the risks of future disasters.

WFP, in collaboration with Oxfam America and Swiss Re, is also testing innovative methods to manage risks through the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative. R4 links an integrated risk management approach which brings safety nets together with community disaster risk reduction, micro-insurance, credit and savings. R4 is based around the idea of managing four types of risks: 1. Community risk reduction (protecting farmers against weather extremes); 2. Productive risk taking (credit for high yield seeds, fertilizer); 3. Risk transfer (insurance); 4. Risk reserves (savings).

HFA Priority for Action 5: Preparedness for effective response

WFP's emergency preparedness and contingency planning are critical to ensuring readiness to respond to both man-made and natural disasters and to reducing their impact on vulnerable populations. This capacity has made WFP a front-line actor in disaster preparedness worldwide; WFP is transferring knowledge and capacities to partner governments, whenever conditions allow. For example, in Haiti, WFP provides assistance to the Government's preparation for disasters through stand-by agreements with partners and the pre-positioning of supplies and equipment.

In 2010, these efforts enabled the Government, WFP and its partners to respond quickly to Hurricane Tomas and Haiti's cholera epidemic.

WFP co-leads the Food security cluster (with FAO), and it leads the logistics and emergency telecommunications clusters – a key component of the strategy to better prepare for disasters.

WFP is strengthening its disaster preparedness capacity through the Preparedness and Response Enhancement Programme (PREP) – a three-year programme which aims to strengthen the WFP corporate response capacities to support emergency response for up to 6 million beneficiaries.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management: Building Food Security and Resilience
- Building Resilience: Bridging Food Security, Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction
- Adjusting to a New Risk Environment: Seminar on Resilience and Adaptation in Food Security Programming for the WFP Executive Board
- Food Security and Water



- A Better Climate for Disaster Risk Management (with IRI, NOAA, OCHA, and IFRC)
- Climate impacts on food security and nutrition: A review of existing knowledge (with the UK Met Office Hadley Centre)
- Weather Index-based Insurance in Agricultural Development: A Technical Guide (with IFAD)
- Enhancing women's leadership to address the challenges of climate change on nutrition security and health

Membership in key networks

- Logistics cluster (WFP leading)
- Emergency telecommunications cluster (WFP leading)
- Food security cluster (WFP co-chairing with FAO)
- Early Warning and Contingency planning (WFP co-chairing with UNICEF)
- Humanitarian Early Warning System (HEWSweb: www.hewsweb.org)
- Food Security Outlook
- Climate Outlook Forum
- ISDR Global Drought Risk Reduction Platform (Co-lead)
- HLCP SMG (ISDR led, CEB mechanism)

National counterpart

National governments and United Nations Country Teams

Executive head

Ms. Ertharin Cousin, Executive Director

Focal points

Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Coordination Office

Websites

- www.wfp.org
- www.wfp.org/disaster-risk-reduction
- www.wfp.org/climate-change

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WHO

World Health Organization

WHO

General description of the organization

WHO, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. WHO's Constitution came into force on 7 April 1948.

WHO is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.

Disaster risk reduction goal

- To support a multi-sectoral approach to improving health outcomes for people at risk of emergencies and disasters by reducing: deaths, injuries, illness and disability; damage to hospitals and health infrastructure; and disruption to health care services;
- To support countries in building national capacities in all-hazard health emergency and disaster risk management, and in strengthening the resilience of health systems and continuity of health services – including physical integrity, safety and functionality of health facilities –before, during and after emergencies;
- To strengthen the resilience of communities and national self-reliance in managing emergencies.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

The World Health Assembly, the governing body of WHO, adopted WHA Resolution (WHA64.10) on “Strengthening national and community health emergency and disaster management capacity and resilience of health systems” in May 2011.

Resolutions have been passed by every WHO Regional Committee over the past 20 years to reinforce the mandate given to WHO and to strengthen capacities of Member States.

The commitment of Member States and WHO for health emergency and disaster risk management is expressed in various international agreements, frameworks and resolutions for specific hazards and areas of public health, such as the International Health Regulations (2005), mental health, disability, food safety, non-communicable diseases, environmental health, climate change, radiation safety and chemical safety.

Strategic Objective 5 of WHO's Medium-Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) for 2008-2013 is: "To reduce the health consequences of emergencies, disasters, crises and conflicts, and minimize their social and economic impact." The 2012-2013 biennial global work plan plans describe WHO activities to support countries in the areas of health sector risk reduction, including emergency preparedness, and to build institutional capacity in WHO for emergency preparedness and response.

Looking ahead to 2014-2015, health emergency and disaster risk management is embedded in the proposed category 5: "Preparedness, surveillance and response". This commitment is described in the references to WHO Reform and the WHO Global Programme of Work at http://www.who.int/about/who_reform/en/index.html

In 2012, the Regional Committee for Africa adopted a resolution (AFR/RC62/R1) to establish a Disaster Risk Management: A Health Sector Strategy for the African Region in order to institutionalize disaster risk management in the health sector, focusing on preparedness for, and response to, emergencies and post-emergency recovery.

Global programmatic guidance includes the WHO Six-Year Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness Strategy for Health Sector and Community Capacity Development which was released in 2007 (http://www.who.int/hac/techguidance/preparedness/emergency_preparedness_eng.pdf). A series of guidance to support the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) (<http://www.who.int/ihr/about/en/>).

WHO Regional Offices are guided in their work on emergency and disaster risk management by regional documentation, such as:

- Disaster Risk Management: A Health Sector Strategy for the African Region (AFRO) – 2012;
- Strategic Plan 2008 - 2012: A Secure and Disaster-Resilient Health Sector in the Americas (PAHO);
- WHO Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness Package (Eastern Mediterranean);



- Towards health security: A discussion paper on recent health crises in the WHO European Region (2007) (Europe);
- Benchmarks, Standards and Indicators Emergency Preparedness and Response (South-east Asia);
- Western Pacific: Regional Framework of Action for Health Emergency Risk Management for Natural Hazards;
- Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED, 2010).

Highlights of impact since 2011

HFA Priority for Action 1: Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening

WHO provides technical guidance and support to Ministries of Health for strengthening all-hazards health and multi-sectoral disaster risk management policies, strategies and legislation. At global level, WHO is facilitating the development of an all-hazards framework on emergency and disaster risk management for health, which describes key principles and the capacities which countries should have in place for managing the health risks of emergencies. It will also assist Ministries of Health in fulfilling their role in promoting whole-of-society action, and describes the roles and responsibilities of actors in health and other sectors which contribute to health outcomes.

At the end of 2011, more than 130 Member States reported having national plans on emergency preparedness, while 46 had active programmes for reducing the vulnerability of health facilities.

As at 1 November 2012, 40 States Parties to the International Health Regulations (2005) are understood to have established the necessary core capacities.

HFA Priority for Action 2: Health risk assessment and early warning

WHO provides guidance on assessing risks to health and health systems using analyses of hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities. Regional hazard atlases have been developed for the African, European and Eastern Mediterranean regions in order to facilitate country-level risk assessments. WHO plays an active role in global surveillance and monitoring of potential threats to health, particularly from biological, natural and technological (such as chemical and radiological hazards) sources to enable early detection and warning to prompt action by the public, health workers and other sectors.

WHO has assisted countries with the application of tools for monitoring and assessing capacities, which serve as the basis for capacity development



plans. WHO provided support for assessments which were completed in Bangladesh, Croatia, England, Greece, Indonesia, Israel, Malta, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and Uganda.

HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

WHO works with Member States, academia and other learning institutions in all Regions on the development and delivery of regional and national learning programmes and technical guidance to strengthen the knowledge, skills and attitudes of professionals in health and other sectors for managing the health risks of disasters. For example, the collaboration between WHO-WPRO, WHO-SEARO and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre for public health emergency management in Asia-Pacific has been conducted for more than a decade. Risk communication for health workers, households and communities at risk also promotes healthy behaviours to reduce risks and prepare for emergencies and disasters.

HFA Priority for Action 4: Reducing underlying risk factors

At the core of reducing underlying risk factors are measures to reduce poverty and strengthen health systems, aimed at improving the underlying health status of people at risk of disasters. WHO is working with health systems colleagues, Ministries of Health and technical departments to integrate health emergency risk management in all aspects of health systems, including national health plans, UN Development Assistance Frameworks and technical areas.

WHO provides support to countries on making hospitals safer and better prepared for emergencies and disasters.

Guidance, training and tools are available, to assess the safety and preparedness of existing health facilities (using the Hospital Safety Index), and for developing new hospitals with a sufficient level of protection to remain functional and deliver health services in emergency situations.

WHO also provides guidance on the protection of other vital infrastructure, and facilities that have the potential to generate risks to public health, such as water and sanitation systems and chemical facilities, and that should apply risk management measures.

HFA Priority for Action 5: Preparedness for effective response

WHO provides support for emergency and disaster preparedness, including response planning, training, pre-positioning of health supplies, development of surge capacity, and exercises for health care professionals and other emergency service personnel, technical assistance is also



designed to strengthen the capacity of health systems to deliver health services before, during and after emergencies, for example, in trauma care, mental health, environmental health, disease surveillance and response, non-communicable diseases and nutrition.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Report of the Consultation on the Health Emergency Risk Management Framework and Strengthening Public Health Preparedness, 2013
- Fact Sheets on Disaster Risk Management for Health across health disciplines (with ISDR and Health Protection Agency), 2011
- Joint Statement: Scaling-up the community-based health workforce for emergencies (with UNHCR, UNICEF; IFRC and Global Health Workforce Alliance), 2011
- Atlas of Health and Climate, WHO and WMO, 2012
- Policy Brief: Integrating sexual and reproductive health into health emergency and disaster risk management (with Care, IPPF, Sprint, Women's Refugee Commission, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA), 2012
- Strengthening health-system emergency preparedness. Toolkit for assessing health-system capacity for crisis management, 2012
- Rapid risk assessment of acute public health events, 2012
- Assessment of capacities using SEA Region benchmarks for emergency preparedness and response (Bangladesh Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal) 2012 (WHO-SEARO)
- Disaster risk management guidelines for national capacity assessment, emergency response, and transition and recovery 2013 (WHO-AFRO)

Membership in key networks

- ISDR Inter-Agency Group
- ISDR Regional Platforms and equivalent bodies (Arab States, Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe)
- ISDR Science and Technical Advisory Group
- UN High Level Committee on Programmes Senior Managers Group for Disaster Reduction and Resilience
- Thematic platform on emergency and DR management for health
- Global Health Cluster
- Interagency Standing Committee and subsidiary bodies
- Western Pacific Regional Health Cluster
- International Programme on Chemical Safety
- Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN)
- WHO-AMRO/PAHO Disaster Mitigation Advisory Group and REMPAN



National counterpart

Ministry of Health; WHO-HQ and Regional Offices organizes Public Health Pre-deployment Training courses preparing health professionals to work effectively in providing health programmes to affected populations.

Executive head

Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General

Focal points

- Department of Emergency Risk Management and Humanitarian Response in Polio, Emergencies and Country Collaboration Cluster, WHO, Geneva (PEC/ERM)
- Disaster Preparedness and Response, WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO), Brazzaville, Congo
- Country Emergency Preparedness, WHO Regional Office for Europe (EURO), Copenhagen, Denmark
- Health Security and Regulations, WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO), Cairo, Egypt
- Emergency and Humanitarian Action, WHO Regional Office for South-east Asia (SEARO), New Delhi, India
- Health security and Emergencies, WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WPRO), Manila, The Philippines

Websites

- www.who.int/hac
- www.who.int/hac/about/wmc_brochure.pdf
- www.afro.who.int/en/clusters-a-programmes/ard/emergency-and-humanitarian-action.html
- www.emro.who.int/eha/
- www.euro.who.int/emergencies
- www.paho.org/disasters
- www.searo.who.int/en/Section1257/Section2263.htm
- www.wpro.who.int/sites/eha/
- <http://safehospitals.info>

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WMO

World Meteorological Organization

WMO

General description of the organization

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is an intergovernmental organization with a membership of 191 States and Territories. It originated from the International Meteorological Organization, which was founded in 1873. Established in 1950, WMO became a specialized agency of the United Nations in 1951. Since its establishment, WMO has played a unique role in contributing to the safety and welfare of humanity. Under WMO's leadership and within the framework of WMO programmes, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services contribute substantially to: 1) the protection of life and property against natural disasters; 2) safeguarding the environment, and 3) enhancing the economic and social well-being of all sectors of society in areas such as food security, water resources and transport. WMO promotes cooperation in the establishment of networks for making meteorological, climatological, hydrological and geophysical observations, as well as the exchange, processing and standardization of related data, and assists technology transfer, training and research.

Disaster reduction goal

The WMO Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Programmes' goal is to enhance the contributions of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, in a more cost-effective, systematic and sustainable manner, towards the protection of lives, livelihoods and property, through strengthening of capabilities and cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction at national to international levels.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

- Establishment of WMO DRR Programme: In 2003 the WMO Congress XIV established its DRR Programme to enhance international cooperation and collaboration in the field of disaster risk reduction activities: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/ois/Operational_Information/Publications/Congress/Cg_XIV/960_en.pdf.



- WMO DRR Programme Implementation Plan: http://library.wmo.int/opac/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=6249.
- WMO DRR Programme Strategic Goals: The Fifteenth Congress of WMO (Cg-XV) in 2007 approved the strategic goals of WMO in DRR, derived from HFA.
- WMO DRR Strategic Priorities: In 2011 the WMO Congress XVI approved the WMO Strategic Priorities in DRR: ftp://ftp.wmo.int/Documents/SESSIONS/Cg-XVI/English/DOCs/d11-5_DRR_en.doc.
- The “WMO Strategic Plan 2012 – 2015”: Describes all programmes and activities of the WMO. WMO Strategic Plan aims at protecting life and property, safeguarding the environment and contributing to sustainable development, all for the enhanced well-being of the peoples of the world: http://www.wmo.int/pages/about/documents/1069_en.pdf.
- WMO DRR Work Plan 2012-2015: Approved by the the 64th session of the WMO Executive Council in 2012: <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/drr/documents/2012.07.05-WMODRRWorkPlan2012-2015.pdf>.

Highlights of work/impact since 2011

The implementation of the HFA by national governments is leading to changes in national DRR policies, legal and institutional frameworks, with implications on the role, responsibilities and new working arrangements for the NMHSs. These changes provide opportunities, such as increased recognition of the NMHSs by their governments and stakeholders, which could result in strengthened partnerships and increased resources. However, NMHS face increasing demand and liabilities related to the provision of products and services to a larger and more diverse group of DRR stakeholders (e.g. government authorities, public and private sectors, NGOs, general public and media, etc.) whom have direct responsibilities for DRR decision-making.

To meet these new challenges the cross-cutting DRR Programme two-tier work plan (hereafter referred to as the “DRR Work Plan”) aims to facilitate better alignment of the activities of WMO constituent bodies and global operational network as well as strategic partners to assist NMHSs to:

1. Engage effectively in the National DRR governance and institutional frameworks;



2. Identify, prioritize, establish partnerships and service delivery agreements with national DRR user community (users);
3. Establish partnership agreements with other national technical agencies (e.g., hydrological services, ocean services, etc.) as well as global and regional specialized centres (e.g. Global Producing Centres (GPC), Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs), Regional Climate Centres (RCC), Tsunami Watch Centres, etc.), with standard operating procedures;
4. Develop and deliver core and specialized products and services for DRR decision support (e.g., hazard/risk analysis, multi-hazard EWS, sectoral risk management and disaster risk financing and risk transfer) in a cost-effective, systematic and sustainable manner;
5. Ensure that core operational capacities (e.g., observing networks, forecasting systems, telecommunication systems, data management systems, human resources, etc.) are built upon the principles of Quality Management Systems (QMS) to support product and service development and delivery;
6. Engage in regional and global efforts for development of risk information for large scale and transboundary hazards, through strengthened regional and global cooperation.

Two-tier DRR Programme Work Plan 2012 – 2015

The implementation of the two-tier DRR Programme Work Plan, includes: (i) development of thematic guidelines, standards and training modules, based on documentation and synthesis of good practices; and (ii) coordinated DRR and climate adaptation national/regional capacity development projects:

For the knowledge products and standards, during the 2012-2015 timeframe, a number of guidelines, manuals and standards are being developed related to hydro-meteorological hazard definitions, standardization of hazard databases, metadata and statistical analysis and forecasting techniques Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems, climate services for disaster risk financing and parametric insurance and requirements of the humanitarian community for meteorological and climate services.

Coordinated DRR and Adaptation national/regional capacity development projects

In 2011, the Sixteenth WMO Congress endorsed: (i) DRR and Adaptation DRR national/regional capacity development projects in South East Europe, the Caribbean, and South-East Asia; and (ii) national Costa Rica Early Warning System Project funded by the World Bank.



Linkages to Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS)

Through the aforementioned implementation approach, the DRR Programme is significantly contributing to the development of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).

HFA Priorities

HFA Priority for Action 1: Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening

National Policy forums are held in a number of countries and regions to demonstrate the role of NMHS and climate services in supporting DRR decision-making.

HFA Priority for Action 2: Risk assessment and early warning systems

Several Publications in this areas have been developed and released. Comprehensive projects for strengthening national capacities in risk analysis and Early Warning Systems have been initiated in a number of regions and countries as an integral part of a comprehensive approach to DRR.

HFA Priority for Action 3: Education, information and public awareness

WMO is undertaking a major initiative to develop guidelines, manuals and standard for hazard definition, monitoring, detecting and mapping of 10 primary hazards of concern to WMO Members.

Key publications/guidance since 2011 related to DRR (or adaptation to climate change-related risks)

- Institutional Partnerships in Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems, 2012: http://library.wmo.int/opac/?lvl=notice_display&id=10659
- Strengthening Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems and Risk Assessment in the Western Balkans and Turkey, 2012: http://library.wmo.int/opac/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=10658
- Strengthening of Risk Assessment and Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems for Meteorological, Hydrological and Climate Hazards in the Caribbean, 2012: http://library.wmo.int/opac/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=10635
- Ten Documented Good Practices on Hazard Definition, Monitoring, Detecting, Databases, Metadata, and Mapping for 10 priority Meteorological, Hydrological and Climate-Related Hazards, Forthcoming Q4 2013



- WMO Guidelines for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services on Institutional Roles and Partnerships in Disaster Risk Reduction and Early Warning Systems, Forthcoming in Q4 of 2013
- Climate Services for Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance: Good Practices and Lessons Learned, Forthcoming in Q4 2013
- Ten Documented Good Practices on Hazard Definition, Monitoring, Detecting, Databases, Metadata, and Mapping for 10 priority Meteorological, Hydrological and Climate-Related Hazards , Forthcoming Q4 2013
- Other DRR related publications from the WMO can be found at: <http://library.wmo.int/opac/index.php?lvl=infopages&pagesid=21>

Memberships in key networks

- Inter-Agency Group
- International Flood Initiative (IFI)
- Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM)
- Five Regional Tropical Cyclone committees managed by Tropical Cyclone Programme (TCP)
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's Intergovernmental Coordination Groups for Tsunami Warning Systems
- Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM)
- World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), (WMO is a co-sponsor with ICSU and UNESCO)
- ISDR Platform for Promotion of Early Warning (PPEW)
- ISDR System Thematic Cluster/Platform on Knowledge and Education,
- Global Risk Identification Programme (GRIP)
- OECD High Level Panel on International Network on Financial Management of Large Scale Catastrophes
- International Research Centre on El Niño (CIIFEN)
- International Council for Science (ICSU)
- More than 40 specialized meteorological and climate centres (e.g. six tropical cyclone forecasting centres, 4 drought management centres, etc.)
- Six Regional Network of Meteorological Services
- Consultative Group of the Space Agencies, EUMETNET



National counterpart

National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, National committees of water, oceanographic and earth sciences, Coastal Zone Management

Executive head

Mr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General

Focal points

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THE WORLD BANK



GFDRR

Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

WORLD BANK

General description of the organization

Since its inception in 1944, the World Bank has expanded from a single institution to a closely associated group of five development institutions. The mission has evolved from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) as facilitator of post-war reconstruction and development to the present day mandate of reducing poverty and promoting shared prosperity worldwide. The five institutions composing the World Bank Group are IBRD, International Development Association (IDA), International Finance Corporation (IFC), Multilateral Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID). IBRD and IDA together are commonly referred to as “The World Bank,” with IBRD aiming to reduce poverty in middle-income and creditworthy poorer countries and IDA focusing exclusively on low-income countries.

The World Bank’s projects and operations are designed to support low-income and middle-income countries’ poverty reduction strategies. It does so within each country’s specific socio-economic context, adapting programmes to country capacity and needs. The World Bank provides low-interest loans, interest-free credits and grants to developing countries for a wide array of purposes that include investments in disaster recovery and risk mitigation, education, health, public administration, infrastructure, financial and private sector development, agriculture, and environmental and natural resource management. The World Bank also provides technical assistance, capacity development, policy advice, research and analysis.

While the World Bank traditionally plays a key role in post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, it has and will continue to increase its involvement in longer term disaster risk reduction. While the World Bank traditionally plays a key role in post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, it has and will continue to increase its involvement in longer term disaster risk reduction.



The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), a partnership financing mechanism that includes 43 country governments from developed, emerging and developing countries, as well as eight international organizations, serves as the World Bank's focal point for disaster risk reduction and recovery. Together with major donors and the UN, the World Bank in 2006 launched GFDRR to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 and thereby address the needs of vulnerable countries and provide coherent approaches globally and regionally to risk reduction and recovery by using the ISDR system. The GFDRR is managed by the World Bank on behalf of the participating donor partners and other partnering stakeholders. It offers a unique business model for advancing disaster risk reduction based on ex ante support to high risk countries and ex post assistance for accelerated recovery and risk reduction after a disaster. This partnership has been successful in raising the profile of disaster risk reduction for sustainable development. Five pillars of action provide the operational framework for GFDRR's strategic approach: risk identification, risk reduction, preparedness, financial protection and resilient reconstruction. The World Bank's Global Expert Team (GET) for Disaster Risk Management provides high quality rapid advisory support to Governments. support of these strategic priorities. GET consists of World Bank staff and experts from its partner organizations with global expertise in disaster risk management.

Disaster risk reduction goal

The World Bank envisions a world in which resilient societies manage and adapt to emerging disaster risks and where the human and economic impacts of disasters are reduced. The World Bank therefore aims to incorporate risk reduction into development assistance in disaster-prone countries, leveraging investments that build resilience.

The overarching objective is to mainstream disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in country development strategies, such as Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSP), Country Assistance Strategies (CAS), and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) to reduce vulnerabilities to natural hazards. This is done through providing analytical, technical and operational support to countries for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

Institutional statements, policy documents and operational guidance

- Development Committee, October 2012 Communiqué, IMF/World Bank Annual Meeting 2012: <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/DEVCOMMEXT/0,,pagePK:64000837~piPK:64001152~theSitePK:277473~contentMDK:23292414,00.html>



- The Sendai Report: Managing Disaster Risks for a Resilient Future
<https://www.gfdr.org/sendaireport>
- GFDRR Partnership Charter
https://www.gfdr.org/gfdr/sites/gfdr.org/files/publication/GFDRR_Partnership_Charter_2010.pdf
- Operational Policy 8.00 – Rapid Response to Crises and Emergencies
<http://go.worldbank.org/IKGMVADFBO>

Highlights of impact since 2011

The World Bank has made significant progress toward mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in its programs. On average, 7 out of every 10 Country Assistance Strategies (CAS) now at a minimum recognize natural disasters as a challenge or a risk to sustainable development, compared with 4 out of 10 in 2006. Similarly, in line with a commitment made in the context of the IDA 16 Replenishment, vulnerability to climate change was discussed in all 2012 (fiscal year) CAS products, compared to 32% in 2007 (fiscal year).

World Bank financing for disaster risk reduction has also become more strategic. Between 1984 and 2006 the World Bank financed more than \$26 billion disaster-related projects, or just less than \$1.2 billion a year. Since then, financing directly linked to disaster risk management has increased to more than \$2.3 billion a year (totaling \$11.7 billion). The World Bank has developed a series of instruments and approaches, spanning financial, knowledge, and convening services to support disaster risk management in countries. A new operational policy on rapid response to crisis and emergencies was adopted in 2007, and new instruments were introduced to accelerate resource mobilization in case of disaster, including the Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown Option (CAT DDO), the IDA Crisis Response Window (CRW), and the IDA Immediate Response Mechanism (IRM).

Between 2006 and 2011 the World Bank financed 113 disaster prevention and preparedness operations (\$7.9 billion) and 68 disaster reconstruction operations (\$3.8 billion).

In all support for disaster risk reduction, the World Bank promotes a comprehensive, multi-sector approach to managing disaster risk in countries.

Strengthening its support to vulnerable countries, GFDRR approved 31 projects worth over \$22 million in fiscal year 2012. The highest share of funding – over 60% – was allocated for risk reduction activities. This was followed by 13% each for risk identification and financial protection, 9% for resilient reconstruction and 4% for preparedness.



Key publications/guidance since 2011

- *The Sendai Report: Managing Disaster Risks for a Resilient Future* World Bank, GFDRR and Government of Japan, 2012
- *The Great East Japan Earthquake: Learning from Megadisasters* A Series of 32 Knowledge Notes, World Bank Institute, GFDRR and the Government of Japan, 2012
- *Improving the Assessment of Disaster Risks to Strengthen Financial Resilience*, A Special Joint G20 Publication by the Government of Mexico and the World Bank, 2012
- *Cities and Flooding: A Guide to Integrated Urban Flood Risk Management for the 21st Century*, World Bank, GFDRR, 2012

Membership in disaster risk reduction related networks

- Inter-Agency Group (IAG)
- Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC)
- International Recovery Platform (IRP)
- OECD Experts Group on Risk and Resilience
- Political Champions Group for Disaster Resilience

National counterpart

- Government

Executive head

Mr. Jim Yong Kim, President

Focal points

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Francis Ghesquiere, Manager, World Bank Disaster Risk Management Practice Group; Head, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) Secretariat (gfdrr@worldbank.org)

Websites

- www.worldbank.org
- www.gfdrr.org

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General description

Established in 1945 under the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly occupies a central position as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations. Comprising all 192 Members of the United Nations, it provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the Charter. It also plays a significant role in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law. The Assembly meets in regular session intensively from September to December each year, and thereafter as required.

The Main Committees of the General Assembly discuss the items, seeking where possible to harmonize the various approaches of States, and present their recommendations, usually in the form of draft resolutions and decisions, to a plenary meeting of the Assembly for its consideration. The six Main Committees are as follows:

- First Committee (Disarmament and International Security Committee);
- Second Committee (Economic and Financial Committee);
- Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee);
- Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization Committee);
- Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary Committee); and
- Sixth Committee (Legal Committee).

Role in disaster risk reduction

General Assembly resolution A/RES/56/195 of 21 December 2001 (after review of the first 2 years of functioning of ISDR, as set out in the founding resolution of A/RES/54/219) stressed that “the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy should be consolidated and enhanced to perform its functions effectively, in particular to serve as the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among the disaster-reduction activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations and activities in socio-economic and humanitarian fields;”



International Strategy for Disaster Reduction is considered under Second Committee agenda item 49 on sustainable development. Sustainable development deals also with the following issues relevant to disaster risk reduction:

- Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;
- Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
- Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;
- Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
- Convention on Biological Diversity;
- Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session.

Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of one annual resolution on disaster risk reduction: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and two biennial resolutions: Natural disasters and vulnerability, and International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon.

In 2010, the General Assembly resolution on International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/RES/64/200) recognized that certain measures for disaster risk reduction in the context of the Hyogo Framework for Action can also support adaptation to climate change, and emphasizing the importance of strengthening the resilience of nations and communities to natural disasters through disaster risk reduction programmes. It also stressed the importance of advancing the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation") and its relevant provisions on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management.

The resolution invited increased efforts to support, implement and follow up the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stressed the importance in this regard of the continued cooperation and coordination of stakeholders at all levels with respect to addressing effectively the impact of natural disasters.



Issues related to International Strategy for Disaster Reduction are also referred to in the humanitarian resolutions of the Third Committee:

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations; International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development; and

Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster

The General Assembly resolution on United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2) decided the following:

“We resolve therefore to adopt in all our environmental actions a new ethic of conservation and stewardship and, as first steps, we resolve:

To intensify cooperation to reduce the number and effects of natural and manmade disasters.”

The UNISDR participates into and organizes side events during the general debate of the General Assembly and in relation to thematic debates throughout the year.

Website

www.un.org/ga



ECOSOC

Economic and Social Council

General description

ECOSOC was established under the United Nations Charter as the principal organ to coordinate economic, social, and related work of the 14 UN specialized agencies, functional commissions and five regional commissions. The Council also receives reports from 11 UN funds and programmes.

ECOSOC serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to Member States and the United Nations system. It is responsible for:

- promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress;
- identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems;
- facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation; and
- encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Role in disaster risk reduction

ECOSOC endorsed the founding documents of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction: the Geneva Mandate and “Strategy for A SAFER WORLD in the 21st CENTURY: Disaster and Risk Reduction” in 1999 (99/63). International Strategy for Disaster Reduction was considered under ECOSOC agenda item on Economic and environmental questions until 2001.

ECOSOC Resolution E/2001/35 on ISDR reiterated the resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 entitled “International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction: successor arrangements”, and recognized the ISDR as the international platform for disaster reduction issues, and urged the international community to provide the necessary resources to the ISDR to promote the dissemination of the disaster reduction message in view of a successful implementation of the ISDR. It invited the General Assembly to give full consideration to the report of the Secretary General at its fifty sixth session, under the item entitled “Environment and sustainable development”.



ISDR is not formally discussed at the ECOSOC. However, ISDR related issues are considered in the humanitarian segment of the ECOSOC, and UNISDR organizes side events during humanitarian and/or general segments. In 2008, there was a panel discussion during humanitarian affairs segment on “Building capabilities and capacities at all levels for timely humanitarian assistance, including disaster risk reduction”.

ECOSOC Functional Commissions most relevant to disaster risk reduction:

The Commission on the Status of Women (CWS) is a functional commission of ECOSOC dedicated exclusively to gender equality and advancement of women. It is the principal global policy-making body established by ECOSOC resolution 11(II) in 1946. Every year, representatives of Member States gather at United Nations Headquarters in New York to evaluate progress on gender equality, identify challenges, set global standards and formulate concrete policies to promote gender equality and advancement of women worldwide.

CWS addressed environmental management and the mitigation of disasters caused by natural hazards at its 46th session in 2002. In its fifty-second session in March 2008, it considered “Gender perspectives on climate change” as the emerging issue.

The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was established by the UN General Assembly in December 1992 to ensure effective follow-up of United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), also known as the Earth Summit.

The Commission is responsible for reviewing progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development; as well as providing policy guidance to follow up the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) at the local, national, regional and international levels. The JPOI reaffirmed that the CSD is the high-level forum for sustainable development within the United Nations system.

The CSD meets annually in New York, in two-year cycles, with each cycle focusing on clusters of specific thematic and cross-sectoral issues, outlined in its multi-year programme of work (2003-2017) (E/CN.17/2003/6).

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) includes commitments



related to disaster and vulnerability reduction under chapter IV: Protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development.

The 11th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (2003) adopted the themes of disaster management and vulnerability to be reviewed in its fifth cycle (2014-2015) in the CSD's multi-year programme of work. Risk management and vulnerability have also been examined in the context of other thematic clusters of CSD, such as water, sanitation and human settlements (2004-2005) and drought and desertification (2008-2009). Poverty eradication, protecting and managing the natural resource base, sustainable development of SIDS and sustainable development for Africa, in particular land, drought and desertification related issues, are very relevant to the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

UNISDR participates into the CSD and usually organizes one side event together with its partners during the CSD session.

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) was established in October 2000, by ECOSOC resolution 2000/35 as a subsidiary body with the main objective to promote "... the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end..." based on the Rio Declaration, the Forest Principles, Chapter 11 of Agenda 21 and the outcome of the IPF/IFF Processes and other key milestones of international forest policy.

The outcome of the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (E/2006/INF/2/Add.1) expressed its concern about continued deforestation and forest degradation and its adverse impact on the livelihoods of over a billion people (including many of the poorest and most vulnerable), and about the need for more effective implementation of actions to facilitate the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

ECOSOC Regional Commissions are working actively in disaster risk reduction:

- Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)



ECOSOC Expert bodies, such as the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues discusses issues relevant to the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Website

www.un.org/ecosoc



CEB

The Chief Executives Board

General description

The Chief Executives Board (CEB) furthers coordination and cooperation on a whole range of substantive and management issues facing United Nations system organizations. CEB is the successor body to the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC). CEB brings together on a regular basis the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system, under the chairmanship of the Secretary General of the United Nations.

In addition to its regular reviews of contemporary political issues and major concerns facing the UN system, on the basis of recommendations from bodies reporting to it, CEB approves policy statements on behalf of the UN system as a whole.

CEB is supported by three High Level Committees, HLCP, HLCM and UNDG. The division of responsibilities between the three bodies can be summarized as follows:

HLCP: Promotion of global policy coherence, including the development of common policy tools, including toolkits, in addition to its work on global policy and programme issues and global public goods.

The High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP), established by CEB in 2000, is the principal mechanism for system-wide coordination in the programme area. It is chaired by the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and is composed of senior-most programme managers of the organizations of the system.

In addition to providing the forum for inter-agency dialogue in the development and launching of new programme initiatives, HLCP advises CEB on issues of strategic planning, policy and programme development and implementation, and on other areas that require priority attention in response to the challenges facing the UN system and the global community. HLCP holds its regular sessions in the spring and fall of each year, and undertakes consultations on a continuing basis.



HLCM (High Level Committee on Management): Harmonization of business practices across the system, including general management issues, thus ensuring overall management coherence from global to country level.

UNDG (United Nations Development Group): Promotion of coherent and effective oversight, provision of guidance and capacity building with country level partners, coordination of UN development operations at country level, addressing policy guidance issues related to country level operations, including the implementation of the TCPR resolutions, and support to the Resident Coordinator (RC) system.

Role in disaster risk reduction

The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), following the participation of the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction at its first regular session for 2011, committed to mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in the programmes and operations of the UN system through the development of a common agenda, and to assign disaster risk reduction the highest political support.

The High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) decided, at its 22nd session, to carry out a review on the state of mainstreaming disaster risk reduction, based on information provided by Committee members. The responses to the questionnaire, by 29 members, provided an initial overview of efforts by the UN system to integrate disaster risk reduction. At its 23rd session, HLCP requested the SRSG for Disaster Risk Reduction to convene a time-bound senior management group to prepare a UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience. HLCP also requested UNISDR to lead the preparation of a checklist for the UN system to mainstream disaster risk reduction, building on existing inter-agency mechanisms and thematic platforms.

The CEB endorsed the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience, as recommended by the HLCP, at its regular Spring Session of 2013.

Website

<http://ceb.unsystemceb.org>



UNDG

The United Nations Development Group

General description

The UN Development Group (UNDG) unites the 33 UN funds, programmes, agencies, departments, and offices that play a role in development. The group's common objective is to deliver more coherent, effective and efficient support to countries seeking to attain internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

Established by the Secretary-General in 1997 as an instrument for UN reform, the UNDG designs system-wide guidance to coordinate, harmonize and align UN development activities. The group strengthens the UN development system at the country level, prepares it to meet future challenges and ensures that operations are conducted in accordance with mandates from UN governing bodies such as the General Assembly.

By strengthening the UN Resident Coordinator System and helping UN organizations work together in new and better ways, the UNDG generates synergies and efficiencies that increase the impact of UN programmes and policy advice. Coordinating development operations promotes more strategic support for national plans and priorities, makes operations more efficient and reduces transaction costs for governments. This helps the UN to be a more relevant and reliable partner for governments.

The UNDG is one of the three pillars of the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB), which furthers coordination and cooperation on a wide range of substantive and management issues facing UN System organizations. The CEB brings the executive heads of UN organizations together on a regular basis under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General. Within the CEB structure, the High-Level Committee on Management works on system-wide administrative and management issues, the High-Level Committee on Programmes considers global policy issues, while the United Nations Development Group deals with operational activities for development with a focus on country-level work.

The Administrator of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) chairs the UNDG. The UNDG Chair reports to the Secretary-General and the CEB on



progress in implementing the group's work plan, and on the management of the Resident Coordinator System.

UNDG members include: ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA, FAO, IFAD, ILO, ITU, OHCHR, OSAA, SRSGCAC, UN DESA, UN DPI, UNAIDS, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNIFEM, UNODC, UN-OHRLS, UNOPS, UNWTO, WFP, WHO, and WMO. The observers include: the World Bank, UNFIP, OCHA, the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, and the Office of the Deputy Secretary-General.

The UN Development Operations Coordination Office (DOCO) (formerly the Development Group Office) is the technical support unit for the UNDG. DOCO provides the link between UNDG discussions at headquarters and the work of the UN development system at the country level, and helps the group prepare system-wide agreements, policies and guidelines for country offices.

Much of DOCO's work focuses on supporting and strengthening the Resident Coordinator System with funding, policy guidance and training. DOCO advises RCs on how to make country programmes more efficient, effective and aligned with national priorities, and work to streamline coordination mechanisms.

Role in disaster risk reduction

The Common Country Assessment (CCA) is a common instrument of the United Nations system to analyse the national development situation and identify key development issues with a focus on the Millennium Declaration / MDGs, and other internationally agreed treaty obligations and development goals. One of the five expected results from the UN Country Team's (UNCT) analytical contribution to country analysis is the recognition of the risks of crises and disasters, as well as capacities for crisis prevention and disaster preparedness.

A key function of the CCA is to support and strengthen the national development framework which may include planning mechanisms such as: a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), sector programmes, or a joint assistance strategy (JAS), and may also involve direct budget support. The CCA may also assist in a Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) or a transition strategy, where they are developed. One of the results of the CCA process is a contribution to developing measures and building capacity for crisis prevention and disaster preparedness; and where applicable to mitigation



plans, post-conflict/disaster recovery and rehabilitation, and planning the transition from relief to development.

The undg Working Group on Programming Issues endorsed a Guidance Note on Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into the Common Country Assessment and United Nations Development Assistance Framework in November 2008. The guidance note was revised and updated by a joint undg/ISDR Task Team on Mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Reduction over the course of 2008. The guidance note was approved by the undg in January 2009 after which it is being made available to UNCTs and relevant parties.

Website

www.undg.org



IASC

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee

General description

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) is a unique inter-agency forum for coordination, policy development and decision-making involving the key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners. The IASC was established in June 1992 in response to United Nations General Assembly Resolution 46/182 on the strengthening of humanitarian assistance. General Assembly Resolution 48/57 affirmed its role as the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance.

The following are the primary objectives of the IASC:

- To develop and agree on system-wide humanitarian policies;
- To allocate responsibilities among agencies in humanitarian programmes;
- To develop and agree on a common ethical framework for all humanitarian activities;
- To advocate for common humanitarian principles to parties outside the IASC;
- To identify areas where gaps in mandates or lack of operational capacity exist;
- To resolve disputes or disagreement about and between humanitarian agencies on system-wide humanitarian issues.

According to General Assembly Resolution 46/182, the IASC should be composed of “all operational organizations and with a standing invitation to the ICRC, IFRC, and IOM. Relevant NGOs can be invited to participate on an ad hoc basis.” In practice, no distinction is made between “Members” and “Standing Invitees” and the number of participating agencies has expanded since inception of the IASC in 1992.

Members of the IASC include: FAO, OCHA, UNDP, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO.

Standing Invitees of the IASC include: ICRC, ICVA, IFRC, InterAction, IOM, OHCHR, RSG on Human Rights of IDPs, SCHR and the World Bank.



Together with Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs (ECHA), the IASC forms the key strategic coordination mechanism among major humanitarian actors.

The Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs, ECHA, is one of the four Committees created by the Secretary-General in the framework of the UN reform with the aim of enhancing coordination among UN agencies. Chaired by the Emergency Relief Coordinator, ECHA meets on a monthly basis in New York. ECHA's membership, notably with the participation of UN Departments, adds a political and peacekeeping dimension to humanitarian consultations.

Role in disaster risk reduction

Disaster preparedness

IASC Working Group requested at its 61st meeting in June 2005, to OCHA and UNISDR secretariat to consult with all IASC members on the most appropriate mechanisms by which the IASC can give effect to its obligations on the Hyogo Framework for Action follow-up taking into account existing IASC and other mechanisms dealing with preparedness issues, time and resources. Based on this request, UNISDR and OCHA developed a Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response - Guidance and Indicator Package for Implementing Priority Five of the Hyogo Framework, published in 2008. The tool provides strengthened guidance to facilitate the implementation of Priority Five of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and aims to assist governments, local authorities, and other stakeholders develop and measure preparedness for response capability at the international, regional, national and local level.

Inter-Agency Contingency Planning Guidelines for Humanitarian Assistance were prepared by the IASC Reference Group on Contingency Planning and Preparedness in 2001 and updated in 2007 by the IASC Sub-Working Group on Preparedness and Contingency Planning. Guidelines were designed to provide a common inter-agency methodology for contingency planning and to ensure effective response to humanitarian needs at the onset of a crisis.

The IASC Humanitarian Early Warning Service (HEWSweb) is an inter-agency partnership project aimed at establishing a common platform for humanitarian early warnings and forecasts for natural hazards. The service has been developed by WFP who is responsible for coordinating



and managing the overall information content, design, and organization of HEWSweb on behalf of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and its members.

Climate change

The IASC Working Group at its 71st meeting in June 2008 requested IFRC with support from OCHA, WFP and IOM to convene a Task Force of relevant IASC organizations to lead the preparation of inputs to the UNFCCC process leading to the Copenhagen Conference (COP-15) in December 2009 and to provide guidance to the IASC on related issues. This informal IASC Task Force on Climate Change and UNISDR made a joint submission in November 2008 to the UNFCCC Ad hoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action on Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies and Risk Management Practices: Critical Elements for Adaptation to Climate Change to highlight the disaster risk reduction and humanitarian implications of climate change to the UNFCCC Parties. The IASC with its Task Force on Climate Change organized a COP-14 Side Event on the Humanitarian Response to Climate Change: Early Warning – Early Action.

Moreover, an informal group convened by IOM, in collaboration with UNHCR and the RSG on Human Rights of IDPs and other interested IASC organizations produced a working paper on Climate Change, Migration and Displacement: Who will be affected?, which was submitted to the UNFCCC.

Early recovery

As part of ongoing efforts to improve the timeliness and effectiveness of the humanitarian response, IASC has embarked upon an initiative to strengthen leadership and accountability in nine key “clusters” of the humanitarian response. Among these is the cluster for “early recovery” — a complex area that is critical in linking immediate responses to disasters with medium and long-term recovery efforts. UNDP was designated as the lead agency for this cluster. Working with 17 humanitarian and development partners, UNDP has identified critical gaps in early recovery and priority actions and resource requirements, in order to improve capacities and apply the cluster approach to crisis situations.



Gender

International humanitarian, human rights, and refugee law share a common goal in aiming to prevent and relieve suffering, and to protect the rights and freedoms of women, girls, boys and men. While there has been emphasis by the IASC on promoting gender equality in all aspects of its work, real-time evaluations conducted in 2005-2006 of the crises in Darfur, the Tsunami and Pakistan earthquake point to clear gaps in promoting gender equality. To address this gap,

The IASC issued in 2006 The IASC Gender Handbook, Women, Girls, Boys and Men: Different Needs – Equal Opportunities which provides field-friendly guidance on how to deliver humanitarian protection and assistance based on the different needs, capacities and vulnerabilities of women, girls, boys and men.

IASC policy statement on Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action was approved by the IASC Working Group in June 2008.

Website

www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/



ISDR

The Strategy

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

ISDR

ISDR mechanisms

The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) is implemented by a system of partnerships with the overall objective to generate and support a global disaster risk reduction movement. Their work is underpinned by the HFA, which is the overall framework for implementing disaster risk reduction endorsed by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005 and by UN General Assembly (A/RES/60/195). These partnerships comprise a broad range of actors, all of which have essential roles in supporting nations and communities to reduce risk. ISDR partners include Governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, international financial institutions, scientific and technical bodies and specialized networks as well as civil society and the private sector

In addition to the secretariat outlined above, ISDR mechanisms include:

- The biennial Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as the main global forum continued and concerted emphasis on disaster reduction. Open to all States and ISDR stakeholders, it serves primarily as a vehicle to assess progress made in the implementation of the HFA, enhance awareness of disaster risk reduction, share experiences and learn from good practice, and also identify remaining gaps and necessary actions to accelerate national and local implementation.



- Regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, including ministerial meetings, led by regional inter-governmental organizations.
- Thematic platforms led by United Nations specialized agencies or technical institutions, provide knowledge products, and help to report on developments (for instance early warning, recovery, education, and risk identification, among others).
- Multistakeholder national platforms for disaster risk reduction are established by Member States to facilitate coordination across sectors.
- Several stakeholder groups and networks associated with ISDR – includes among others, a Scientific Technical Committee, Global NGO Network for DRR, Gender-and-Disasters and Media groupings and an emerging Parliamentarian Network.
- A United Nations Inter-Agency Group acts as a venue for improving coherence among the participating organizations, thus better supporting countries in their implementation of the HFA.
- The United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction function was created in 2008 by the UN General Assembly. The functions of this post includes leading and overseeing UNISDR in the executions of its functions entrusted by the General Assembly (GA), Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), as well as policy directions by the Secretary-General, facilitating the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, overseeing the management of the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and carrying out high-level advocacy and resource mobilization activities for risk reduction and implementation of the HFA.
- The Special Representative also ensures the strategic and operational coherence between disaster-reduction and humanitarian disaster preparedness and response activities, as well as socio-economic activities of the UN system and regional organizations.

Website

- www.unisdr.org
- www.preventionweb.net



Glossary of Acronyms

CAT DDO	Catastrophe Risk Deferred Draw-down
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBDM	Community-based Disaster Management
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CEB	Chief Executives Board
CERF	Central Emergency Relief Fund
CIIFEN	International Research Centre on El Niño
FAO	The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GA	General Assembly
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GEO	Group on Earth Observations
GFCS	Global Framework for Climate Services
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
GOOS	Global Ocean Observing System
HC/RC	Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
HLCM	High Level Committee on Management
HLCP	High Level Committee on Programmes
HRBA	Human rights-based approach
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAG	Inter-Agency Group on Disaster Risk Reduction
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IASC/CWGER	Inter-Agency Standing Committee Cluster Working Group on Early Recovery
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICSU	International Council for Science
IDP	Internally-displaced person
IFC	International Finance Corporation



IFI	International Flood Initiative
IGOS	Integrated Global Observing Strategy
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INSARAG	International Search and Rescue Advisory Group
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IRP	International Recovery Platform
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
JPOI	Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NMHSs	National Meteorological/Hydrological Services
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PEDRR	Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategies
RC	Resident Coordinator
RCCs	Regional Climate Centres
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
UN-SPIDER	United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCRD	United Nations Centre for Regional Development
UNCSD	United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development
UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination Team




UNDAF	UN Development Assistance Frameworks
UNDESD	United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDOCO	UN Development Operations Coordination Office
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
UNECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP/APELL	Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGIWG	United Nations Geographic Information Working Group
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UN-OHRLS	Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
UNOOSA	United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNOSAT	United Nations Operational Satellite Applications Programme
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East



UNU	United Nations University
UNU/EHS	UNU Environment and Human Security
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UNWOMEN	United Nations Women
WB	World Bank
WB/CAS	World Bank Country Assistance Strategies
WCRP	World Climate Research Programme
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WHO/AFRO	WHO Regional Office for Africa
WHO/EMRO	WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WHO/SEARO	WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia
WHO/WMC	WHO Mediterranean Centre for Health Risk Reduction
WHO/WPRO	WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific
WIGOS	WMO Integrated Global Observing System
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WMO/APFM	Associated Programme on Flood Management

Hyogo Framework for Action

HFA 1	Making disaster risk reduction a policy priority, institutional strengthening
HFA 2	Risk assessment and early warning systems
HFA 3	Education, information and public awareness
HFA 4	Reducing underlying risk factors
HFA 5	Preparedness for effective response

The background of the cover is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this is a large, light blue emblem of the United Nations. The emblem consists of a world map centered on the Atlantic Ocean, surrounded by a laurel wreath. The map shows the continents of North and South America, Europe, and Africa. The laurel wreath is composed of two branches of leaves, one on each side of the map.

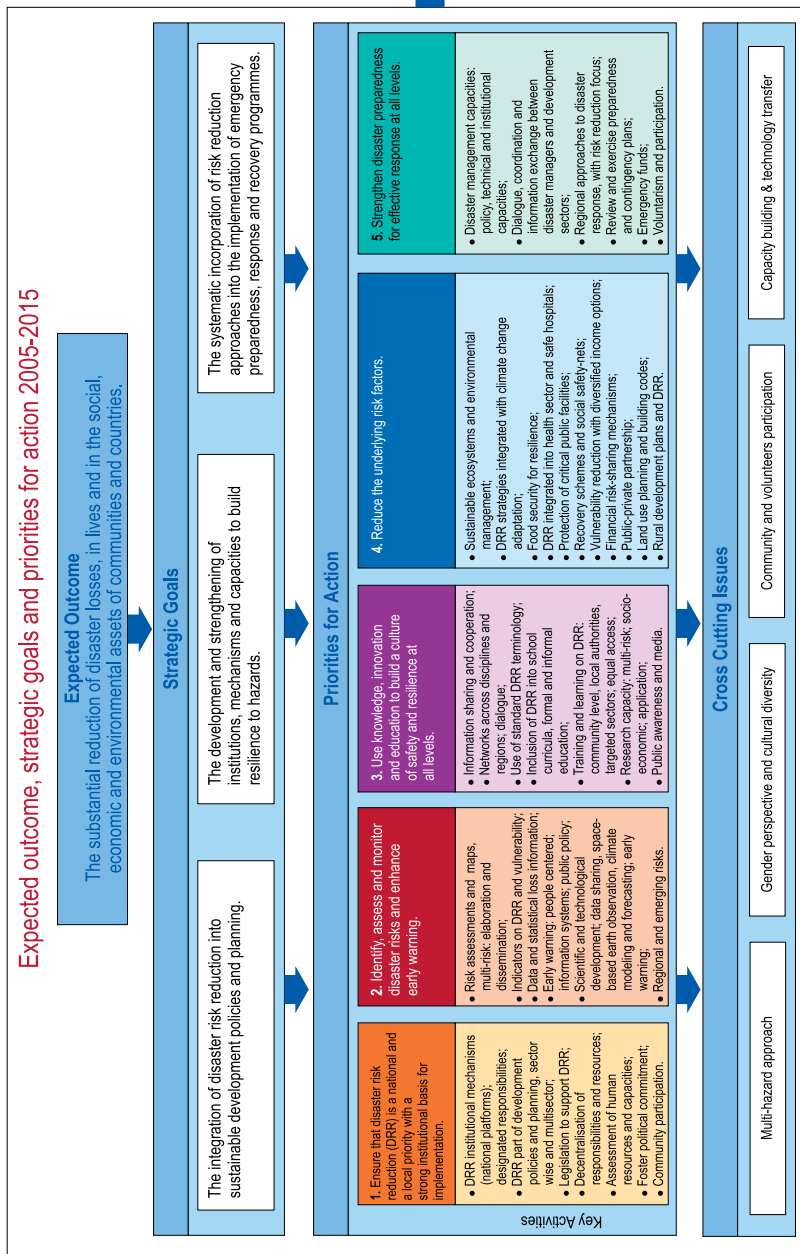
Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015



United Nations
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

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

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

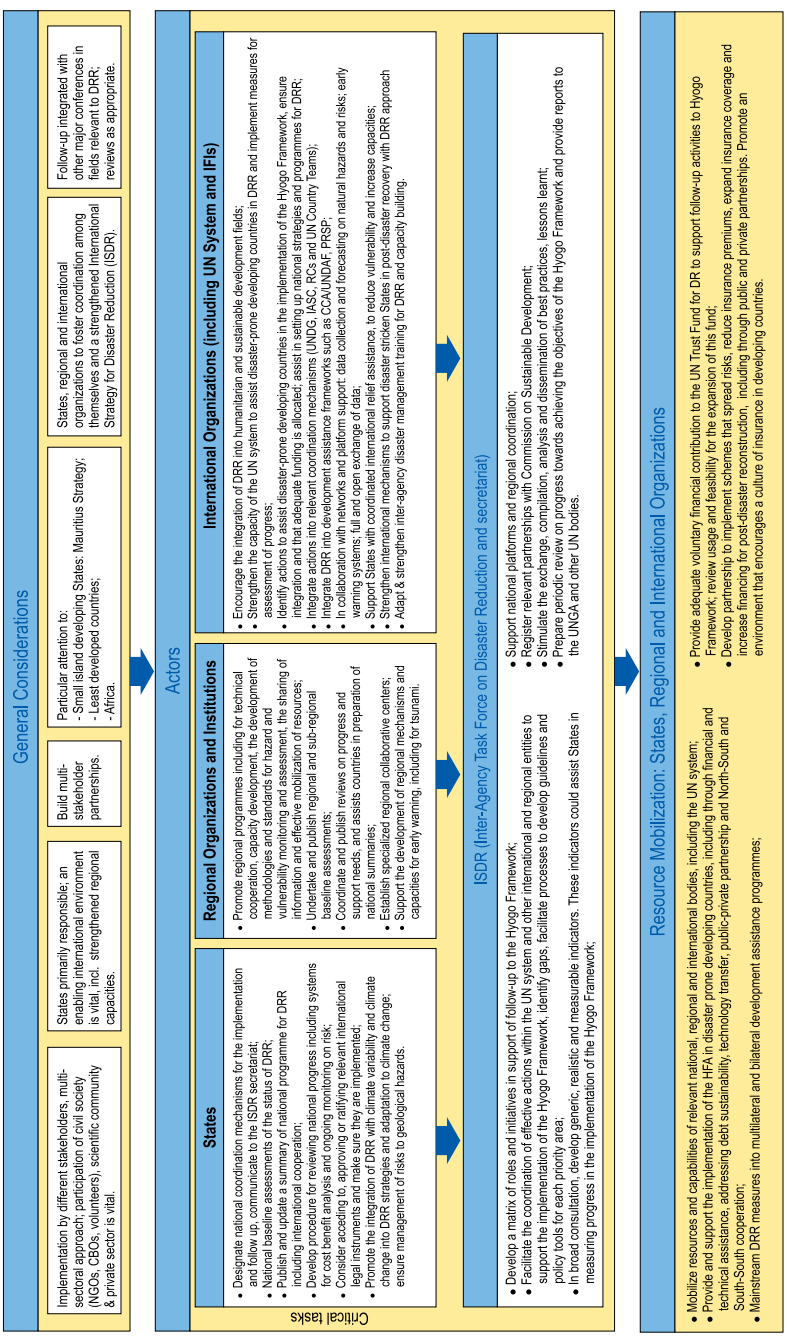


DRR- disaster risk reduction

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Implementation and Follow-Up

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



Source: Outcome of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, 18-22 January 2005

* The ITF/DR was replaced in 2007 by the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

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