

**AfRP '14**  
ABUJA 13-16 MAY



■ Prevent Risk: Build Resilience ■



**UNISDR**

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

# SELECT EXCERPTS FROM UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

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1. **A/RES/44/236 (1989):** Proclamation of International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, beginning 1 January 1990 and adoption of associated International Framework of Action.
2. **A/RES/49/22 (1994):** Endorsement of the 'Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation', in particular its Plan of Action, adopted on 27 May 1994 by the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction.
3. **A/RES/60/195 (2006):** Endorsement of the Hyogo Declaration and the 'Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters' as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005.
4. **A/RES/67/209 (2013):** Decision to convene the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, in Japan to review the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and to adopt a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, with a request to UNISDR to serve as the secretariat of the Conference, to facilitate the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction and to coordinate the preparatory activities in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.
5. **A/RES/68/211 (2013):**
  - a. Stresses the importance of regional coordination for the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction through regional platforms including one for Africa hosted by Nigeria.
  - b. Welcomes the 'UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience' and requests UNISDR as the coordinator of the Plan of Action to report on progress, bearing in mind agreed reporting provisions of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of 2012.
  - c. Establishes an Open-ended Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee for the Third World Conference including a Bureau consisting of two members of each regional group.

Source: UN General Assembly Resolutions

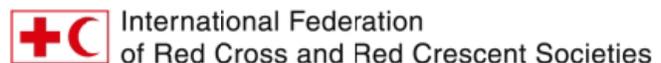
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**AMCOMET**



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



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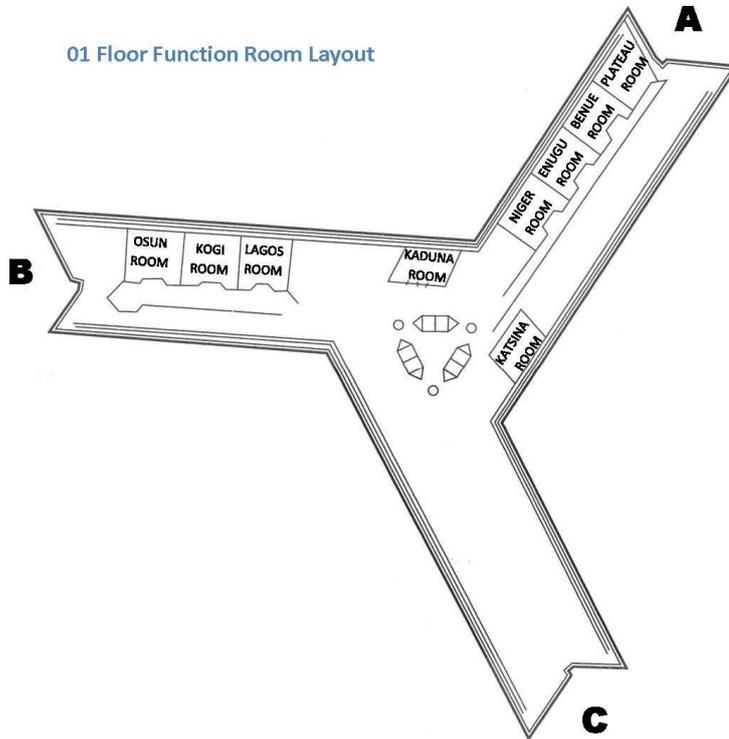
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	Opening and closing sessions		Plenary sessions	Parallel sessions and special sessions	Press conferences	
	Sun 11 May	Mon 12 May (Day 0)	Tue 13 May (Day 1)	Wed 14 May (Day 2)	Thur 15 May (Day 3)	Fri 16 May (Day 4)
8.00	Accreditation and Registration Katsina Room					High level breakfast meeting Benue & Enugu
8.30	Accreditation and Registration Katsina Room				Summary of Discussions 14 May Congress Hall	
9.00	Accreditation and Registration Katsina Room				Plenary: Integrating DRR and Climate Change Adaptation for Resilience Congress Hall	MINISTERIAL SEGMENT
9.30	Disaster Risk Reduction Mainstreaming and Investment for Resilient Structural Transformation of Africa (By invitation) Plateau & Benue		Preparatory Consultations EAC - Enugu ECCAS - Benue ECOWAS - Edo IGAD - Imo SADC - Plateau UMA - Rivers Parliamentarians - Nasarawa Local Governments - Cross River Civil Society / NGOs / Gender / Others - Delta Private Sector - Ogun Scientific, Technical and Academic Communities - Sokoto Youth - Borno Media - Bauchi	Plenary: Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 and Africa Regional Strategy/Programme of Action 2006-2015, and Towards a Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Congress Hall	Special events Enhancing Coordination : Role of National Platforms Benue & Enugu	Opening Congress Hall
10.00					Plenary: Investment in DRR: The Business Case Congress Hall	Report of the Drafting Committee from the Technical Segment
10.30					Special events Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction Benue & Enugu	
11.00					Meteorological and climate services to support disaster risk reduction in a changing climate Borno & Anambra	Plenary: Ministers' Statements Congress Hall
11.30						LUNCH
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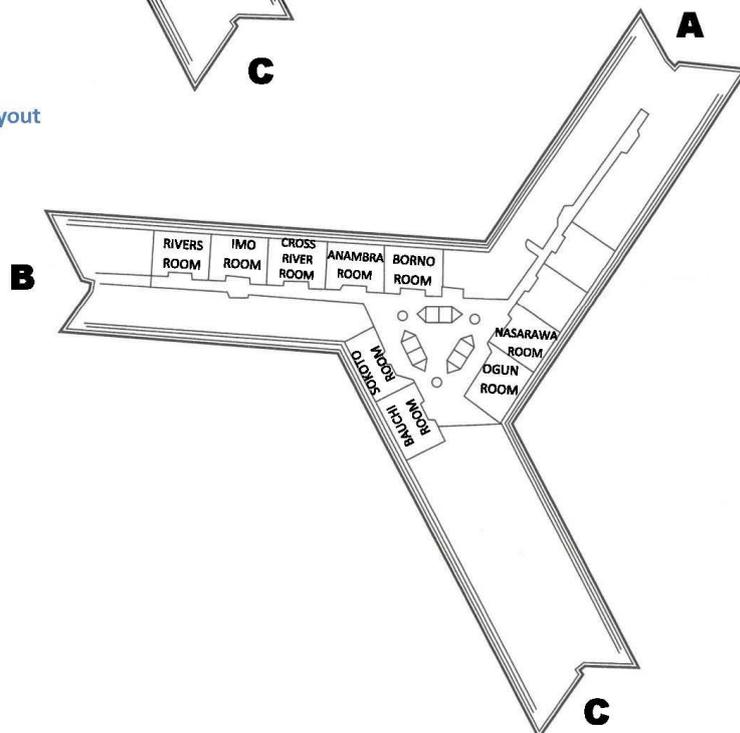
# FLOOR MAP

## Hotel floor plans/ Schema (Carte) d'hotel

01 Floor Function Room Layout

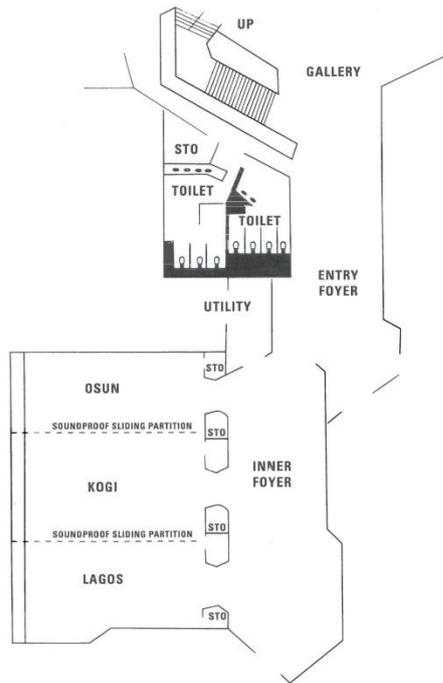


02 Floor Function Room Layout

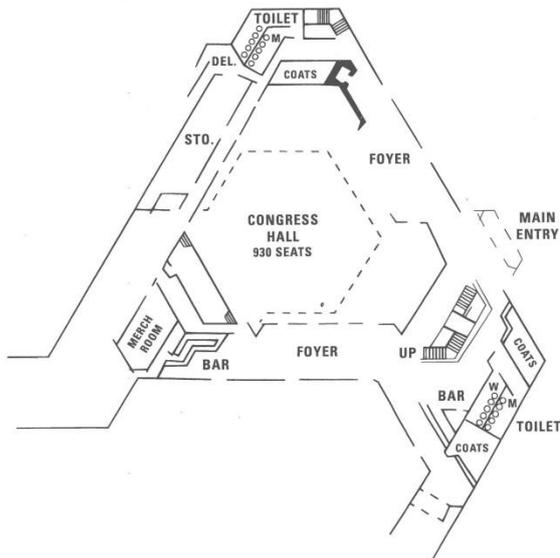


# Floor Layouts

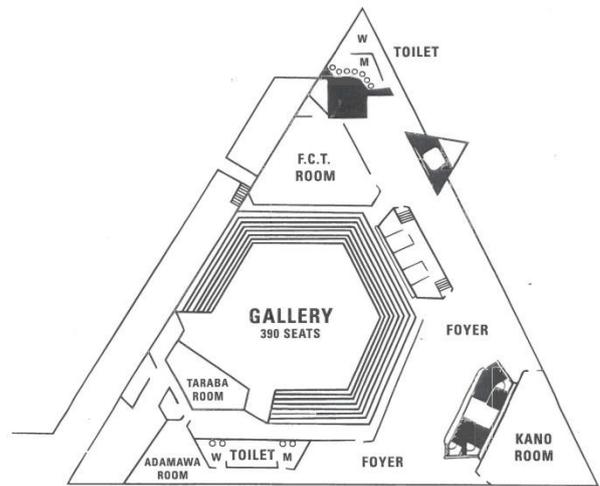
## Lagos-Kogi-Osun Rooms



## Congress Hall



## Congress Hall (Mezzanine)



# SCHEDULE

## Accreditation and Registration

Sunday, 11 May	10:00 – 18:00	Katsina Room
Monday, 12 May	08:00 – 17:00	Katsina Room
Tuesday, 13 May	08:00 – 17:00	Katsina Room
Wednesday, 14 May	08:00 – 17:00	Katsina Room
Thursday, 15 May	08:00 – 17:00	Katsina Room
Friday, 16 May	08:00 – 13:00	TBC

## Pre-Conference Events: Monday 12 May

	Time	Location
UNDP & UNECA: Disaster Risk Reduction Mainstreaming and Investment for Resilient Structural Transformation of Africa (By invitation)	09:00 – 17:00	Plateau & Benue
UN-HABITAT: DIMSUR Executive Board Meeting (By invitation)	09:00 – 17:00	Kaduna Board Room
IFRC: Consultation on DRR legislation	14:00 – 17:00	Enugu & Niger

## Day 1: Tuesday 13 May

	Time	Location
<b>Preparatory Consultations</b>	09:00 – 12:30	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Economic Communities           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East African Community (EAC)</li> <li>Economic Community for Central African States (ECCAS)</li> <li>Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS)</li> <li>Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)</li> <li>Southern African Development Community (SADC)</li> <li>Union du Maghreb Arabe (UMA)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Parliamentarians</li> <li>Local Governments</li> <li>Community Practitioners: Civil Society / NGOs / Gender / Others</li> <li>Private Sector</li> <li>Scientific, Technical and Academic Community</li> <li>Youth</li> <li>Media</li> </ul>		Enugu Benue Edo Imo Plateau Rivers Nasarawa Cross River Delta Ogun Sokoto Borno Bauchi
Lunch	12:30 – 14:00	
Plenary: Election of Rapporteurs and Drafting Committee	14:00 – 15:00	Congress Hall
Opening Ceremony	15:00 – 17:00	Congress Hall
Photo Session	17:15 – 17:30	By the fountain
Press Conference (Closed)	17:30 – 18:00	Bauchi
Reception Hosted by the Government of Federal Republic of Nigeria	18:15 – 20:00	TBC

<b>Day 2: Wednesday 14 May</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Plenary: Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015, Africa Regional Strategy / Programme of Action 2006-2015; Towards Post-2015 Framework for DRR	09:00 – 11:00	Congress Hall
Plenary: Managing Risk: Policy and Institutions	11:15 – 13:00	Congress Hall
Lunch	13:00 – 14:30	
Plenary: Balanced Development: Risk Sensitive Planning	14:30 – 16:00	Congress Hall
Parallel Session: Leadership for DRR Mainstreaming (UNDP & UNECA)	14:30 – 16:00	Benue & Enugu
Parallel Session: Risk Financing	14:30 – 16:00	Borno & Anambra
Parallel Round Table: UN Delivering as One for DRR – Implementing the UN Plan of Action on DRR for Resilience	14:30 – 16:00	Imo & Cross River
Informal Plenary: <i>Africa Talks</i>	16:15 – 18:00	Congress Hall
<b>Day 3: Thursday 15 May</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Summary of Discussions 14 May	08:30 – 09:00	Congress Hall
Plenary: Integrating DRR and Climate Change Adaptation for Resilience	09:15 – 11:00	Congress Hall
Special Event: Enhancing Coordination: Role of National Platforms	09:15 – 11:00	Benue & Enugu
Special Event: Urban Resilience & Recovery (UN-HABITAT)	09:15 – 11:00	Borno & Anambra
Plenary: Investment in DRR: The Business Case	11:15 – 13:00	Congress Hall
Special Event: Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction (IUCN)	11:15 – 13:00	Benue & Enugu
Special Event: Meteorological and climate services to support disaster risk reduction in a changing climate (WMO)	11:15 – 13:00	Borno & Anambra
Lunch	13:00 – 14:30	
Plenary: Stakeholder Consultation Reports	14:30 – 15:30	Congress Hall
Plenary: Summary Statement of the 5th Africa Regional Platform for DRR	15:30 – 17:00	Congress Hall
Closing	17:00 – 17:30	Congress Hall
<b>Day 4: Friday 16 May</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>HIGH LEVEL MINISTERIAL SEGMENT</b>		
High-Level Breakfast Meeting (By Invitation)	07:30 – 09:00	Benue & Enugu
Opening	09:30 – 10:15	Congress Hall
Report of the Drafting Committee from the Technical Segment	10:15 – 10:30	
Ministers' Statements	10:45 – 13:00	
Lunch	13:00 – 14:00	
Rapporteurs' Presentation: Draft Declaration on Africa's Contribution to the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction	14:15 – 14:30	
Discussion: Draft Declaration	14:30 – 15:45	
Adoption of Declaration on Africa's Contribution to the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction	16:15 – 16:30	
Closing	16:30 – 16:45	
Press Conference (Closed)	17:00 – 17:30	Bauchi

# CONCEPT NOTE

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At the last World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005, governments committed to reducing disaster losses through adoption of the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA)*. As this global framework nears its conclusion, the United Nations General Assembly (Resolution A/RES/66/199), has requested UNISDR, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, to coordinate the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. Based on consultations with all stakeholders, including at online, local, national, regional and global levels, and complemented by national HFA reports, findings of regional and global assessment reports and several stakeholder reports, UNISDR has proposed some consolidated elements to guide and pave the way towards the next global framework ([www.preventionweb.net/posthfa/proposed-elements](http://www.preventionweb.net/posthfa/proposed-elements)).

As the secretariat of the Third World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (Sendai, Japan, 14-18 March 2015), UNISDR is coordinating the preparatory activities in consultation with relevant stakeholders. To develop the Africa contribution to the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction,

under the leadership of the African Union Commission, the Fifth Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (AfRP) is being organised at Abuja, Nigeria, 13 - 16 May 2014.

Besides the AfRP, the Africa contribution to the post-2015 framework has been evolving through a series of consultations at various levels, including at national, sub-regional and regional levels, a roundtable at the Fourth Africa Regional Platform (Arusha, Tanzania, February 2013), Africa Consultation and Position presented by the African Union Commission at the Fourth Global Platform (Geneva, Switzerland, May 2013) and a Consultative Meeting on post-2015 framework (Nairobi, Kenya, November 2013) that resulted in a draft Africa contribution paper on post-2015 framework, in the form of a Summary Statement. The draft position paper will be refined at the biennial Africa Working Group (Abuja, Nigeria, 11-12 March 2014), ready to be discussed and adopted through a ministerial declaration at the AfRP.

The proposed themes, strategic goals and outcomes of the AfRP are summarised in this diagram.

## THEMES AND OUTCOMES OF AFRICA REGIONAL PLATFORM\*



\* These proposed themes and outcomes are a result of the above mentioned consultations. Delegates at AfRP will further recommend priorities for the post-2015 framework.

## PROPOSED OUTCOMES:

### ***1. Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework and Monitoring and Review***

Consultations have proposed that Africa contribution to the post-2015 framework on disaster risk reduction should build on the experience gained from the last nine years of HFA implementation, be practical and action-oriented, strengthen accountability, be relatively short, and capable of addressing future natural hazards and technological risks.

Resulting from this consultative process, the proposed content of HFA-2 is:

- a. Reaffirmation and/or enhancement of parts of HFA
- b. New areas and elements not present in HFA
- c. A monitoring mechanism based on an enhanced system of targets and indicators, including on financing
- d. Elements of UNISDR's role in facilitation and coordination of the post-2015 framework

To strengthen the review process and to enable cross-fertilisation between review mechanisms for DRR and development goals, governments and stakeholders should emphasise the inclusion of DRR review in the High Level Political Forum, the intergovernmental forum on sustainable development.

### ***2. Ministerial Declaration***

To formalise and strengthen the finalisation of the Africa Position on HFA-2, ministers and/or their delegates from participating African countries will adopt a Declaration on HFA-2. The Declaration will be a key instrument to frame the overall outcome of the AfRP, including validation of HFA-2 core elements. The results of consultations before and during the Platform and stakeholder commitments will be used to build the Declaration.

The Declaration, together with the Africa contribution to the post-2015 framework and stakeholder commitments will be submitted to the Preparatory Committee of the World Conference (first meeting, Geneva,

Switzerland, 14-15 July 2014) and to the African Union Summit for endorsement.

### ***3. Stakeholder Commitments***

Stakeholder commitments are the expression of voluntary commitments by all stakeholder groups participating at the AfRP. The voluntary commitments will be compiled and recognised as part of the overall outcome of the AfRP and, in particular, the Declaration, recognising their value in guiding implementation and cooperation.

Existing commitment frameworks like the 'Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient' and the 'Five Essentials for Business in Disaster Risk Reduction' could be used as guides for developing stakeholder commitments. These can be summarised as:

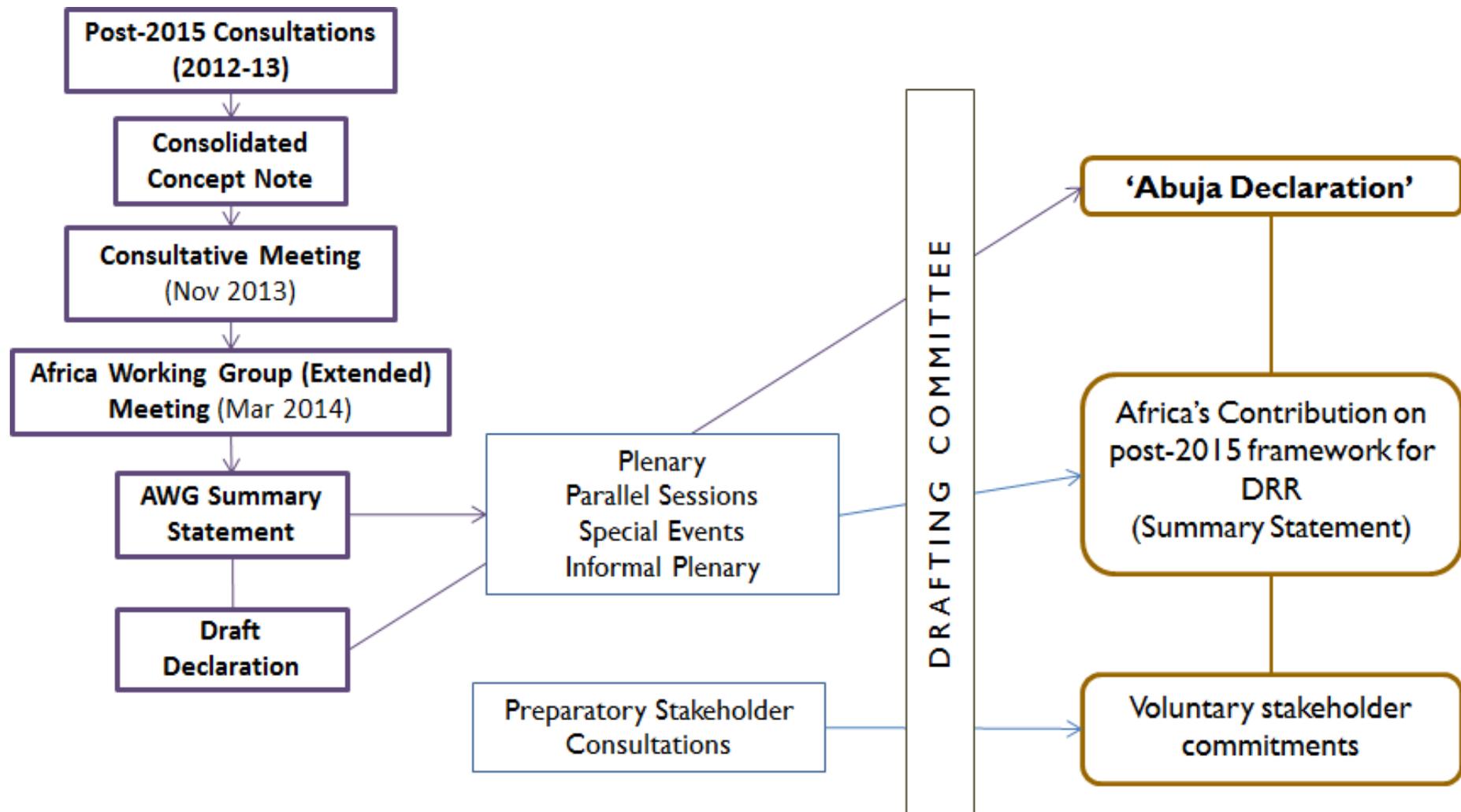
#### ***Ten Essentials for City Resilience***

- 1. Put in place organisation and coordination to understand and reduce disaster risk.*
- 2. Assign budget for DRR and provide incentives for stakeholders on DRR investments.*
- 3. Conduct risk assessments and maintain up-to-date accessible data on disaster risks.*
- 4. Invest in and maintain critical infrastructure that reduces risk.*
- 5. Assess the safety of all schools and health facilities and upgrade these as necessary.*
- 6. Apply and enforce building regulations and land use planning principles.*
- 7. Ensure that DRR is integrated in curricula and DRR training is available for schools and local communities.*
- 8. Protect ecosystems and adapt to climate change building on good DRR practices.*
- 9. Install early warning systems and emergency management capacities.*
- 10. Ensure that the needs of the affected population are placed at the centre of reconstruction.*

#### ***Five Essentials for Business in DRR***

- 1. Promote and develop public-private partnerships for DRR*
- 2. Leverage sectorial private sector expertise and strengths*
- 3. Foster collaborative exchange and dissemination of data.*
- 4. Support risk assessments and socio-economic cost-benefit analyses and capacity-building*
- 5. Support laws, regulations, policies and programmes that enhance DRR and improve resilience.*

## PROCESS STEPS TO OUTCOMES OF AFRICA REGIONAL PLATFORM



# SUMMARY STATEMENT

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## AFRICA WORKING GROUP (EXTENDED) FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

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● ECOWAS Commission, Abuja, Nigeria ● 11-12 March 2014 ●

Members of the Extended Africa Working Group for Disaster Risk Reduction, including governments, regional economic communities, development partners including donors, United Nations, Non-Governmental Organisations, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, academic institutions, and other international organisations, came together with representatives of youth, gender and media to review the progress of disaster risk reduction in Africa and consolidate a draft Africa's Contribution to the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The meeting was chaired by the African Union Commission; the host ECOWAS Commission acted as the vice-chair and UNISDR acted as the Secretariat.

The members suggested that disaster risk reduction should be addressed as a rights-based issue especially in relation to the most vulnerable groups, and agreed on the following elements comprising Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, which should be read in conjunction with the summary statement released by the consultative meeting in November 2013, Nairobi, Kenya.

The recommendations are summarised below:

### **A. Regional Risk Factors and Institutional Frameworks**

1. Few countries have adopted policies and legislation addressing disaster risks. The legislation process should be enhanced for

all countries and backed by strengthened institutional capacity to enforce legislation. Institutions should enhance the inclusion of disaster risk reduction into municipal and decentralized policies, so that risks can be effectively addressed through regulatory framework from national to local and municipal levels. Public participation should be enhanced in policy development to address vulnerabilities associated with marginalised people such as: girls, boys, women, disabled, elderly, etc. Decentralisation should be complemented by increased accountability and transparency in implementing disaster risk reduction through allocation of responsibility and resources at the local level.

2. Plans and policies should be budgeted and supported by multi-sector and multi-hazard strategic programme and investment framework that works as a pragmatic solution to translate policies into actionable programmes. This requires capacity building and capacity retention. Effective linkages between policy and community practitioners should be established. The role of national platforms should be strengthened to ensure that there is a proper interaction and discussion of policy, planning and financing at national level.

3. Disasters do not follow administrative boundaries and hence trans-boundary

policies and programmes are essential to address such risks. The post-2015 framework needs to consider disaster-induced (both fast- and slow-onset disasters) population movements that may lead to or result from conflicts.

4. Disaster risk reduction should be placed at a higher level in the national government structure for better coordination and implementation. Examples of successful disaster risk management models, and multi-sector national institutions should be leveraged and replicated.
5. Disaster risk reduction should be integrated in education systems including curricula at all levels and comprehensive school safety frameworks to ensure uninterrupted safe education processes that contribute to reducing disaster risks. Higher attention needs to be paid to centres of higher research and professional education on disaster risk reduction. Community education and awareness on disaster risk reduction (DRR) should be integrated across sectors and coordinated between government authorities, civil society and the general public.
6. National and sub-regional platforms should be strengthened for effective coordination to ensure prevention and early action.
7. Africa is a rapidly urbanizing continent. To address urban risks and build urban resilience, risk governance in urban settings should be enhanced. While promoting the management of existing risks in cities, accumulation of further risks should be prevented through disaster-sensitive physical planning of growing cities for preventing risks over the long-term, based on city resilience profiling. Attention should be given to areas at risk, especially informal settlements, basic service provision, and social protection for children, women, disabled and elderly.
8. Recognizing the current lack of capacities in several fast-growing cities in Africa, technical capacities of city managers and practitioners to address risks should be enhanced. There is need for making use of national experience and expertise, city-to-city exchange, technical centres and institutes, academia and other entities
9. Africa has a significantly large and vibrant young population. Given this and its high socio-economic vulnerabilities to the impacts of disasters, girls, boys and youth must be meaningfully involved in future disaster risk reduction planning and possible implementation. National and regional policies and strategies should include risk assessments that promote children's protection.
10. New approaches should be adopted to address chronic vulnerabilities and slow-onset disasters in Africa, including through working with the media.

## **B. Integration of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation**

The Hyogo Framework for Action mentioned integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, but achievements were limited. The year 2015 will be marked by major landmarks in the form of the adoption of post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (March 2015), post- 2015 framework on development goals (September 2015) and another climate change conference (December 2015). This provides a valid platform for integration of the three agendas.

1. Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction integration form the building blocks for current and future risk prevention, leading to resilience. Availability and access to information on risks, losses and damages associated with climate-related hazards and disasters should be enhanced.

2. Redirected focus on reducing underlying causes of risk (Priority for Action 4) is needed. This requires that adequate information on risks, losses and damages associated with climate related hazards is made available. Availability of regional and local climate data, information and knowledge should be enhanced.
3. Coordination needs to be increased at institutional level between the disaster risk reduction and climate change communities including through developing synergies between relevant frameworks and conventions at global level. The post-2015 development framework can provide a valid platform for this integration. This approach needs to be in turn integrated into basic social service systems and delivery approaches including education, health, water etc., while co-benefiting resource mobilisation for both.
4. Roles and responsibilities of national agencies for hazard monitoring and issuance of warnings as well as those responsible for emergency management need to be clarified through policies, legislation, and institutional coordination mechanisms. More systematic linkages should be established between technical agencies (such as meteorological, hydrological and climate services) and disaster risk management agencies. Early warning outreach should be enhanced to different sectors and community level and relevant communication systems and channels should be strengthened.

### **C. Investments in Disaster Risk Reduction**

Rapid economic growth in Africa provides opportunities for increasing investment in disaster risk reduction.

- I. An enabling investment environment for disaster risk reduction should be created through comprehensive risk profiles, and disaster damage and loss information to inform investment decisions. Funding

mechanisms need to be aligned for the development of disaster and climate-related information. There is a need for strengthening technical capacities of the institutions responsible for monitoring and analysing hazard, exposure, and vulnerability components of risk.

2. Appropriate tools for analysing the benefits of disaster risk reduction should be developed for the purpose of influencing policies, plans and budgets. Investments on integrated early warning systems should be enhanced to bring scientific and indigenous knowledge under a common framework of understanding and linked to early warning and early action.
3. A people-centred approach to disaster risk reduction is essential for achieving the objectives of developing resilience for disaster risk reduction. Needs of groups with specific vulnerabilities should be understood in terms of specific and multiple hazards. Linkages between community-based disaster risk reduction, national and sub-national policies and procedures should be developed.
4. Public-Private Partnerships should be enhanced to bring more investment to disaster risk reduction. This should also be leveraged to enhance accountability for private sector and the relevance of their investment to benefit vulnerable communities while preventing future risks.
5. National governments should allocate adequate resources for scalable and flexible adaptive basic social services, social protection systems including safety nets, to enhance community resilience. Safety net programmes should be used as effective medium for risk prevention, and not limited to risk reduction and emergency response.

## Enhancing Commitments

Members recommended making the post-2015 framework more action oriented with valid grounds for generating commitments from all actors and stakeholders by undertaking the following:

1. Disaster risk reduction should be implemented in line with rights-based approaches to generate a high level of institutional accountability.
2. Strengthening awareness and knowledge at all levels for all stakeholders is a key to generating the right commitment for implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. This should include a focus on capacity building at all levels to foster communities of disaster risk reduction practitioners.
3. Governments should allocate an agreed proportion of public budgets for disaster risk reduction informed by economic analyses and risk assessments.
4. Technical guidelines to integrate risk reduction into public investment should be developed in a systematic way.
5. Higher engagement should be promoted with civil society and community based organisations.
6. Advocacy efforts should be leveraged to mark the shift from 'awareness' to 'how-to-do-it' (e.g. implementation of 10 essentials for city resilience) including through support of specialized dedicated technical assistance provided by national governments, technical centres with a focus on disaster risk reduction and urban resilience, universities and consortia of universities and the inclusion of disaster risk reduction modules into sectorial curricula relevant to city management (e.g. architecture and physical planning, engineering, geography etc.).
7. Clear accountability mechanisms with monitoring and reporting of progress will help generate commitment for implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. Reporting mechanisms for governments on investments in disaster risk reduction should be strengthened. Public reporting mechanisms could be put in place for national, sub-national and community level disaster risk reduction programmes (e.g. parliamentary reporting, open-information websites, community meetings, etc.).
8. Institutions within the countries responsible for implementing disaster risk reduction strategies and actions need to be strengthened to monitor data and information such as hazard and sectorial loss and damage that are critical for reporting progress.
9. Possibility of establishing a regional monitoring and reporting unit should be explored to track implementation of commitments made. UNISDR's capacity should be enhanced for strengthened policy advocacy and coordination.
10. Commitments to empower youth and children with specific skills that will enable them to better apply their special insights as youth and children for disaster risk reduction, resilience building and building-back-better after a disaster.

- END -

# PREPARATORY CONSULTATIONS

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## PREPARATORY CONSULTATION

### Regional Economic Communities

■ Tuesday 13 May 2014 ■ 09:00 – 12:30 ■ Rooms: See Schedule

#### Background

Regional Economic Communities (RECs) have provided leadership in the coordination and implementation of the Hyogo framework for Action and the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction; its Programme of Action (PoA). In their principle of '*Working together and leaving no one behind*', they represent valuable political bodies actively engaged and committed to effective disaster risk reduction implementation, RECs are important drivers for regional integration and enhanced socio-economic development. RECs have a comparative advantage over individual Member States they represent, and have adopted, effective consultative systems to reach out to their respective Member States to inform and influence political will.

At the policy level, RECs have made deliberate efforts to create policy, legal and institutional mechanisms for disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation at various levels of development. Through support from UNISDR and Partners, RECs are responsible for collecting regional data and information on DRR for preparation of the Africa Status Report for Disaster Risk Reduction.

These preparatory consultations are guided on the outcomes from previous consultations that have resulted in three complementary and strategic goals for the post-2015 framework for DRR namely: (i) **Risk Prevention** the pursuit of development pathways that minimize disaster risk generation; (ii) **Risk Reduction** actions that address existing disaster risks; and (iii) **Strengthened resilience** actions that enable nations and communities to absorb loss and damage, minimize impacts and recover more quickly.

The objectives of this session is twofold: i) To develop concretely the key issues in Africa that need to be included in the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), to enhance REC's inclusion thereby strengthening the mechanisms for building community resilience to disasters and ii) To clearly identify commitments that are concrete actions in relation to disaster risk.

#### Questions to Guide Discussion

1. How can IGOs/RECs assist in improving the understanding of the impact of increased disaster risk reduction in the region?
2. Can you give some examples of how disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation is integrated into regional development planning and programmes? What more can be done?
3. What do you believe are the links between sustainable development, conflict and disaster risk reduction?
4. What are the top three issues, imperative to building regional resilience to disasters that can be further addressed in a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction?

## Outcomes

- Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.
- Stakeholder voluntary commitments to the proposed recommendations.

## Reporting

The above will be presented on Day 3, 'Stakeholder Consultation Reports' 14:30 – 15:30 by a representative from the stakeholder group.

- RECs should identify a reporter both for taking notes and for reporting on outcomes on Day 3.
- Each REC should also identify a representative for the Drafting Committee of the Africa Regional Platform.

## PREPARATORY CONSULTATION

### Parliamentarians

■ Tuesday 13 May 2014 ■ 09:00 – 12:30 ■ Nasarawa ■

## Background

The first priority of the Hyogo framework for Action (HFA) '*Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters*' was to ensure that Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is to ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation. The achievement of this goal requires the effective governance and policy guidance coupled with the establishment of DRR institutions such as National Platforms, and legislation to support DRR implementation.

Due to increased frequency and rising impacts of disasters, many African countries have shown increasing political commitment to the HFA process and the Africa Regional Strategy for DRR and its Programme of Action (PoA). Many countries have created National Platforms for DRR or similar mechanisms, including dedicated government Ministries to support the HFA Process. The Global Assessment Report 2013 (GAR13) indicates that the 4th HFA priority '*Reducing the underlying risk factors*' is the least implemented across many regions. The reason for this can be traced to non-compliance with regulations where they exist, or the lack of rules and regulations altogether.

In exercising their constitutional and legislative authority, parliamentarians make laws that accelerate socio-economic development, create accountability, transparency and increased community resilience to disasters. Legislation also creates opportunities for funding and investments in DRR activities by national governments and other development partners. Legal and institutional frameworks are also designed to promote division of labour and minimize duplication. Parliamentarians/legislators therefore play a key role in the HFA implementation process and hence the need to support networks and platforms for them to advocate on the best approaches on DRR legislation in Africa.

## Objectives

Parliamentarians' are key drivers on Africa's contribution to a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. Their commitments to actions on DRR legislation are central to risk-sensitive policies and programmes on DRR.

The objectives of the Parliamentarians preparatory consultative session is twofold: i) To develop concretely the key parliamentary issues in Africa that need to be included in the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), to enhance parliamentarians inclusion and equality thereby strengthening the mechanisms for building community resilience to disasters and ii) To clearly identify commitments that are concrete actions in relation to disaster risk.

The consultations will be guided by the outcomes from previous consultations as the three complementary and strategic goals for the post-2015 framework for DRR namely: (i) **Risk Prevention**; the pursuit of development pathways that minimize disaster risk generation; (ii) **Risk Reduction**; actions to address existing disaster risks; and (iii) **Strengthened resilience**; actions that enable nations and communities to absorb loss and damage, minimize impacts and recover more quickly.

## Questions to Guide Discussion

1. What is the role and involvement of Parliament in policy and legislation development for reducing risk and building resilience?
2. Have disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation measures been integrated into national development policies, planning and programmes (i.e. health, education, infrastructure, land use)? What more can be done?
3. How do you exercise your oversight role in the area of disaster risk reduction? Can you give some examples?
4. What areas should a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction focus on? How do we maximize the contribution of parliamentarians?

## Outcomes:

- Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.
- Stakeholder voluntary commitments to the proposed recommendations.

## Reporting

The above will be presented on Day 3, 'Stakeholder Consultation Reports' 14:30 – 15:30 by a representative from the stakeholder group.

- The group should identify a reporter for taking notes and for reporting on the outcomes on Day 3.

## **PREPARATORY CONSULTATION**

### **Local Governments**

■ **Tuesday 13 May 2014** ■ **09:00 – 12:30** ■ **Cross River** ■

### **Questions to Guide Discussion**

1. What are the major challenges in investing in disaster risk reduction at the local level?
2. How effectively have the national policies on disaster risk reduction been implemented at local level?
3. Can you give some examples of how local government has implemented disaster risk reduction measures? What was the key success?
4. What do you think should be the three main components that need to be further addressed in a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction?

## **PREPARATORY CONSULTATION**

### **Community Practitioners: Civil Society / NGOs / Gender / Others**

■ **Tuesday 13 May 2014** ■ **09:00 – 12:30** ■ **Delta** ■

### **Background**

Africa remains a vulnerable continent to both natural and technological hazards. Disaster impacts are more devastating amongst poor and vulnerable communities. Civil Society plays a vital role in preventing, preparing, mitigating, reducing and responding to disasters in an effective and timely manner.

Civil Society including non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations have been at the forefront in supporting national level and grass root communities to become more aware of existing and emerging risks and develop community-based solutions to increase their resilience to those risks. Civil Society has adopted the concept of “leaving no one behind” that focuses on equality and specific investments to assist marginalized people. Disaster risk is not shared equally among the rich and the poor, and many people are more vulnerable because they are politically, socially or economically alienated, with little access to resources, influence, information and decision-making processes.

In addition to supporting community based programmes, Civil Society plays a vital role in advocacy, lobbying with national institutions for more transparency, accountability and rule of law within the governance structures of African governments; for benefit of the grass root communities. Civil Society’s drive for increased networking, sharing of information and strengthening capacity in their operations is critical to building community resilience.

Against this background, and in the lead up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (3<sup>rd</sup> WCDRR), Sendai, Japan 14 – 18 March 2015, UNISDR will engage with Civil Society as they develop their position and commitments to the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Consultations on the post-2015 framework for DRR are on-going and will inform Africa’s

position in the post-2015 framework for DRR and the Ministerial Declaration issued from the 5<sup>th</sup> Africa Regional Platform (AfRP).

## Objectives

The session seeks to address the following questions;

1. What would Civil Society highlight as the main achievements against the five priority areas of the HFA (2005-2015)?
2. What have been the major challenges in the implementation of community and national level programmes?
3. What is the future role of Civil Society in Disaster Risk Reduction and strengthening community resilience?
4. What are the commitments of Civil Society to the post-2015 framework for DRR to promote disaster risk reduction and resilience?

## Additional Questions to Guide Discussion

1. What were the impacts and changes made in reducing risk and building resilience at community level as result of the HFA implementation?
2. What are the major challenges in investing in disaster risk reduction at the community level?
3. What are the key factors that have contributed to the successes or failures in reducing local risk of disasters?
4. How does the community influence the decision-making process in disaster risk reduction?
5. How do you see the post-2015 development agenda (post MDGs), sustainable development goals, and a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction coming together at the community level?
6. What are the top three issues, imperative to building community resilience to disasters that needs to be further addressed in a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction?

## Outcomes

- Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.
- Stakeholder voluntary commitments to the proposed recommendations.

## Reporting

The above will be presented on Day 3, 'Stakeholder Consultation Reports' 14:30 – 15:30 by a representative from the stakeholder group.

- The group should identify a reporter for taking notes and for reporting on the outcomes.
- The group should also identify a representative for the Drafting Committee of the Africa Regional Platform.

## GENDER

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### Background

The diversity of culture in Africa may in some instances create inequalities in gender, attributable to cultural values, beliefs and practices. When disaster strikes, vulnerable groups are the most affected, and in many cases bear the burden of taking care of the family and the community in times of crisis.

Over time, the situation has improved, with many governments taking an affirmative action to see increased involvement of men, women, boys and girls in development activities. The concept of gender mainstreaming into development was clearly established as a global strategy for promoting gender equality in the Platform for Action adopted at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing (China) in 1995.

Mainstreaming gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for vulnerable groups on any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in any area and at all levels. It is a strategy for making the concerns and experiences of vulnerability an integral part of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres, so that women, men, youth and children benefit equally.

The main goal for gender mainstreaming in the context of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is to build resilience of women, men, youth and children to disasters. This is achieved by raising the understanding of gender concerns and needs in DRR; developing the capacity of governments to address gender issues in DRR and encouraging governments to take action towards integrating gender perspectives in DRR related policies, legislation and programmes.

The main priority areas for integrating gender into DRR include:

1. Review of national policies, strategies and plans on DRR and management, and actions to Integrate gender perspectives
2. Promotion of gender equality in the participation of DRR policy-making processes
3. Establishment of gender focal points in national DRR platforms for technical support in gender mainstreaming
4. Undertaking gender-based vulnerability and risk assessments
5. Enhancement of gender balanced understanding of, and access to early warning systems
6. Undertaking DRR capacity building, giving special attention to gender equality
7. Integration of DRR into poverty reduction, climate change adaptation and environmental protection from gender perspectives at all levels
8. Undertaking gender-based needs analysis and make disaster preparedness and disaster response gender-sensitive and gender-inclusive
9. Documentation and dissemination of good practices to promote vulnerable groups as agents of change

## Objective

The objectives of this gender preparatory consultative session is twofold: i) To develop concretely the key gender issues in Africa that need to be included in the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), to enhance gender inclusion and equality thereby strengthening the mechanisms for building community resilience to disasters and ii) To clearly identify commitments that are concrete actions in relation to disaster risk.

The consultations will be guided by the already foreseen from previous consultations as the three complementary and strategic goals for the post-2015 framework for DRR namely: (i) **Risk Prevention** and the pursuit of development pathways that minimize disaster risk generation; (ii)

**Risk Reduction** by embracing actions to address existing disaster risks; and (iii) **Strengthened resilience** through embracing actions that enable nations and communities to absorb loss and damage, minimize impacts and recover more quickly.

### Questions to Guide Discussion

1. What are the major achievements and challenges in reducing disaster risks for women and other vulnerable groups?
2. Who is accountable for reducing disaster risk for women and other vulnerable groups?
3. Can you outline some measures for greater social cohesion, community empowerment for reduce risks of disasters and build resilience in communities?
4. What are the top three issues that can be further addressed in a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction from a gender equity perspective?

### Outcomes

- Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.
- Stakeholder voluntary commitments to the proposed recommendations.

## PREPARATORY CONSULTATION

### Private Sector: Business & Industries

■ Tuesday 13 May 2014 ■ 09:00 – 12:30 ■ Ogun ■

### Background

Africa's economic growth has surged over the past years and is comfortably ahead of the global average. Notwithstanding differences between the successes and drivers of the 50-plus individual economies, overall private investment inflows are increasing. For example, significant investments are being made in infrastructure and construction in African cities experiencing the world's most rapid urbanization. In order to ensure sustainability and resilience of newly built infrastructure, there is an urgency to increase awareness of disaster risk reduction; an opportunity to make investments resilient.

The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 (HFA) – '*Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters*', is the global plan to make the world safer from natural hazards. This global framework is approaching the end of its ten-year timeframe. It is important to discuss the elements for the successor framework; post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, and Africa's Contribution to the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

### Opportunities

There is great un-tapped potential for contributions from the private sector. The current HFA mentions the role of the private sector in the context of public-private partnerships and resource mobilization. Where business is directly responsible for economic growth in Africa, the responsibility to engage in disaster risk reduction grows with it for reasons from minimizing losses from disasters to corporate social responsibility.

Globally, there is high interest in climate resilience and adaptation through business continuity plans to protect assets, production of goods and services, direct supply chains and growth plans from possible hazards. The consultations for the post-2015 framework for DRR provide a unique opportunity for business to influence public policy and development planning by joining forces with national and local governments, NGO's, parliamentarians and other stakeholders to build resilient risk-sensitive communities in Africa.

During the Fifth Africa Regional Platform on DRR, UNISDR will engage with business and industry to promote innovation, practical solutions and approaches that influence the future of disaster risk reduction in Africa. The purpose of this engagement is to lay the foundation for voluntary business commitments that contribute to the implementation of a post-2015 framework for DRR.

Having a strong voice from business and industry in the development of the post-2015 framework for DRR and Africa's contribution is essential to ensure that the private sector is committed to the elements of implementation for resilient economies and communities. Tony Elumelu, a highly successful Nigerian entrepreneur, philanthropist and head of the Tony Elumelu Foundation, believes that ...” the African Entrepreneur must be the key author of new economic activities in which business growth combines with social development for truly sustainable and inclusive impact.”

The decisions taken in Abuja are important for Africa. They will form the basis of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. The Declaration by Ministers emerging from the African Regional Platform for DRR will join others at the World Conference on Disaster Risk in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan where a new framework will be agreed upon and put forward to the United Nations General Assembly for adoption.

The objectives of this session is twofold: i) To develop concretely the key issues in Africa that need to be included in the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), to enhance Business and Industries inclusion thereby strengthening the mechanisms for building community resilience to disasters and ii) To clearly identify commitments that are concrete actions in relation to disaster risk.

### **Questions to Guide Discussion**

1. How can we improve the understanding of the benefit of disaster risk management among the private sector?
2. How can we engage private sector in disaster risk management? What can we learn from business continuity planning?
3. How can we better understand the economic and investment consequences of disasters from a business perspective?
4. What are the top three issues, imperative to building resilience of the private sector to disasters that can be further addressed in a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction?

### **Outcomes**

- Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.
- Stakeholder voluntary commitments to the proposed recommendations.

### **Reporting**

The above will be presented on Day 3, 'Stakeholder Consultation Reports' 14:30 – 15:30 by a representative from the stakeholder group.

- The group should identify a reporter for taking notes and for reporting on the outcomes on Day 3.

## **PREPARATORY CONSULTATION**

### **Mobilising Knowledge to Reduce Risk: Role of Academic, Science and Technology Communities**

■ Tuesday 13 May 2014 ■ 09:00 – 12:30 ■ Sokoto ■

#### **Background**

In recent years, there has been an encouraging progress in disaster risk-related academic, scientific and technological capacity development in a number of African countries, although this remains markedly uneven across the continent, as well as within countries. Some of the most positive advances in risk management and vulnerability reduction in Africa have occurred when an integrated understanding of risks has incorporated local/indigenous as well as scientific knowledge, has been linguistically and culturally meaningful and has been underpinned by a transparent collaboration between communities, researchers, practitioners and decision-makers.

These achievements have been further enabled through engaged risk scholarship by Africa's institutions of higher learning that produce skilled human capital, generate applied risk research and knowledge, and support community outreach processes.

#### **Objectives**

This session examines the risk-reduction achievements in Africa that have been realized during HFA implementation harnessing academic, scientific and technological capabilities in collaboration with civil society, government, international and private sector actors. In this context, the session intends to identify which of the PAST (previous academic, scientific and technological) initiatives should carry through to the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

Similarly, the session intends to visualise new risk challenges and opportunities for the forthcoming decade that should guide FAST (future academic, scientific and technological) collaborations in Africa, which should be incorporated into the post-2015 DRR framework.

The session explicitly aims to step beyond a solo approach that separates risk-related academic, scientific and technological endeavours from development decision-making and risk reduction practice at all scales. Its focus is on value-adding partnerships and building synergies that simultaneously advance and retain skilled human capital, enable robust, shared understanding of the region's changing risk profile and enable the transfer of, and adoption of, technologies that sustainably strengthen national and local risk management capacity. It is visualised that UNISDR would play a key facilitative role in such partnerships at regional and sub-regional level.

#### **Questions to Guide Discussion**

1. How do we improve the science and policy dialogue to ensure that decisions are informed by science? Examples?
2. How can we better understand the cost and benefits of disaster risk reduction?

3. How can we better understand the linkages between conflict, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development?
4. What are the top three science related issues, important to building local resilience to disasters that needs to be further addressed in a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction?

### **Programme:**

The proposed programme will be structured in three parts.

The first session will reflect on HFA in Africa from the perspective of academic, scientific and technology communities and will also incorporate a vision of the risk challenges and opportunities for FAST (future academic, science and technology) collaborations.

The following session will present examples of successful, sustainable collaborations and partnerships in Africa between academic, science and technology actors with communities, local and national governments, international partners and private sector that have generated risk-reducing outcomes and contributed to the co-production of risk-knowledge.

In the concluding session, there will be specific focus on determining any (PAST) elements from HFA to be carried forward to the post-2015 DRR framework as well as identifiable FAST collaborations and related recommendations.

### **Outcomes:**

- Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.
- Stakeholder voluntary commitments to the proposed recommendations.

### **Reporting**

The above will be presented on Day 3, 'Stakeholder Consultation Reports' 14:30 – 15:30 by a representative from the stakeholder group.

- The group should identify a reporter for taking notes and for reporting on the outcomes on Day 3.

## **PREPARATORY CONSULTATION**

### **Youth**

■ Tuesday 13 May 2014 ■ 09:00 – 12:30 ■ Borno ■

### **Background**

In many African cultures, the elders are charged with the responsibility of passing on the cultural values to younger generations so that the values and beliefs, cultural heritage and indigenous knowledge are preserved.

As preservers of knowledge for the next generation, African youth play a key role in passing on traditions and socio-economic development. Their knowledge, energy and innovation should be tapped and channelled towards national development programmes. Africa is a continent of young people, with capacities that can no longer be ignored. Science and technological knowledge is fast

growing. The newly educated generation in Africa can help use science and integrate indigenous knowledge to develop more effective disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) programmes for sustainable development. Integrating youth into DRR and CCA planning and programmes ensures an effective and energetic integration process of DRR into national and community level programmes.

It is in this context, that UNISDR and its partner UN-HABITAT are supporting youth to become DRR champions; to be the change agents for DRR applications; and to help vulnerable groups to build resilience to disasters. In the post-2015 framework for DRR, gender mainstreaming, and the inclusion of youth, women, and people living with disabilities as well as local governments and community leaders are seen as critical approaches towards resilience strengthening.

## Objective

DRR youth champions are expected to deliberate on DRR and CCA issues facing the continent now and in the future. They are further expected to reflect on the gaps identified in the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015). The objectives of this session is twofold: i) To develop concretely the key issues in Africa that need to be included in the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), to enhance Youth inclusion thereby strengthening the mechanisms for building community resilience to disasters and ii) To clearly identify commitments that are concrete actions in relation to disaster risk.

The consultations will be guided by the outcomes from previous consultations that resulted in three complementary and strategic goals for the post-2015 framework for Disaster Risk Reduction namely: **(i) Risk Prevention** the pursuit of development pathways that minimize disaster risk generation; **(ii) Risk Reduction** actions to address existing disaster risks; and **(iii) Strengthened resilience** actions that enable nations and communities to absorb loss and damage, minimize impacts and recover more quickly.

## Outcomes

- Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.
- Stakeholder voluntary commitments to the proposed recommendations.

The above will be presented on Day 3, 'Stakeholder Consultation Reports' 14:30 – 15:30 by a representative from the stakeholder group.

## Reporting

- The Youth group should identify a reporter for taking notes and for reporting on the outcomes on Day 3.
- The group should also identify a representative for the Drafting Committee of the Africa Regional Platform.

## PREPARATORY CONSULTATION

### Media

■ Tuesday 13 May 2014 ■ 09:00 – 12:30 ■ Bauchi ■

#### Background

There is an increasing recognition that eradicating/reducing vulnerabilities that predispose countries to the catastrophic impact of disasters – both human-induced and natural is a precondition for sustainable development.

As a number of countries across Africa come out of decades of instability and conflict, towards peace and development, the impact of disasters such as floods, drought, fires, landslides, traffic, marine accidents, structural collapses, etc. continue to claim lives and livelihoods of many citizens impeding progress towards the eradication of poverty and retarding growth.

The media in Africa enjoys a considerable degree of trust of communities, and quite often defines what people think and do about the issues affecting them. The local media has also been significant in uncovering Africa's boundless opportunities, and drawing the interest of many international corporations and entrepreneurs. But even as media speaks of Africa's booming economy, the conversation must, moving forward include the 'risk sensitive development' perspective.

The preparatory session of the media at the Africa Regional Platform will focus on African media and the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), what is the role of the media in supporting communities throughout crises, what has been the contribution of African media since the HFA, what are the lessons learned and what can be done differently, and what is the role of the media in the post-2015 strategy including on objective reporting on DRR? Also, what is the role of social media in relation to DRR?

This will be explored from the following angles:

- Editorial
- Community journalism
- Business / media commercialism

#### Programme:

**Chair:** Kenneth Moses Njue – NMG / Diraj

**Panellists:** Edward Wanyonyi – Diraj / BBC Media Action, Jorge Ernesto Rungo – Editor – Domingo (Mozambique) and a representative of a community or special interest group organization.

**Moderator:** Benjamin Moshatama – South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC)

#### Outcomes

This session seeks a commitment from the members of the media for a sustained and objective disaster risk reporting, building on professional networks and finding a place in the existing DRR platforms, nationally and regionally. The outcomes of the session include:

- Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.
- Stakeholder voluntary commitments to the proposed recommendations.

## Reporting

The above will be presented on Day 3, 'Stakeholder Consultation Reports' 14:30 – 15:30 by a representative from the stakeholder group.

- The group should identify a reporter for taking notes and for reporting on the outcomes on Day 3.
- The group should also identify a representative for the Drafting Committee of the Africa Regional Platform.



Photo Credit: BBC World Service Trust

## PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT [OPEN]

### Consultation on DRR Legislation – Towards a DRR Checklist for Lawmakers

[Organised by IFRC]

■ Date 12 May ■ Time 14:00 – 17:00 ■ Enugu & Niger ■

#### Background:

1. In 2012, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) commenced a collaborative project aimed at supporting the strengthening of domestic legislation for disaster risk reduction (DRR). In its initial stage, the project envisaged the development of two products:
  - A multi-country study of the DRR-related legislation of 31 countries (forthcoming, June 2014); and
  - A ten-point “Checklist for Disaster Risk Reduction Legislation” supported by a handbook.
2. This initiative is founded in both:
  - The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 (HFA) first priority - to “ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation,” notably through “policy, legislative and institutional frameworks for disaster risk reduction”; and
  - A specific mandate from states at the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in November 2011 (Resolution 7), which encouraged states to assess whether their laws made DRR a priority, including by providing for DRR resource allocation and accountability, by involving communities, civil society and the private sector, and by promoting implementation of land use planning and building codes.
3. The proposed *Checklist for Disaster Risk Reduction Legislation* will draw on the findings of the IFRC-UNDP study, but also on the opinions and experiences of stakeholders, gathered through consultations held around the world. These consultations began in 2012 and will continue through 2015. They aim to involve governmental policymakers, planners and legislators at both national and sub-national levels, the private sector, and key advocates for improved DRR at country level, including RCRC National Societies, UNDP, UNISDR, other UN agencies engaged in DRR-related humanitarian and development work, and national and international NGOs.
4. The Checklist will aim to identify ten key questions that lawmakers and implementing officials need to consider in ensuring their laws provide the best support for DRR. This includes not only flagship laws related to disaster risk management but also sectoral laws and regulations that are critical for building safety and resilience, at both national and local levels.
5. It is anticipated that a pilot version of the Checklist and a supporting handbook will be available for the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015, and that during 2014 in the lead-up to that conference these consultations will contribute to developing legislative indicators on DRR for the HFA2.
6. A final version of the Checklist and handbook will be presented at the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in November 2015.
7. In addition to producing a helpful tool and contributing to HFA2 indicators on legislation, one of the major purposes of the Checklist initiative is the development process itself – that is, conversations with key stakeholders raising awareness and sharing information about the role of law in DRR at country level.

**Programme:**

The programme is a participatory consultation on a draft Checklist for Disaster Risk Reduction Legislation. It will also provide sufficient background on the results of the IFRC-UNDP multi-country study to give participants concrete examples to work with (the facilitator is the principal author of the forthcoming report).

Participation is encouraged for government officials and legislators at both national and sub-national levels, the private sector, national and international NGOs, IFRC and RCRC National Societies, UNDP, UNISDR, and other agencies engaged in DRR-related humanitarian and development work at country level.

It will be structured into three parts:

1. Overview of the IFRC-UNDP multi-country study on DRR-related legislation and the key issues arising from it, including questions and remarks by session participants
2. Introduction to the draft Checklist for Disaster Risk Reduction Legislation, followed by small-group discussion
3. Identifying key feedback and proposals from the whole group concerning the Checklist document and consultation process, and inputs to HFA2 indicators on legislation.

# PLENARY SESSIONS

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## PLENARY SESSION

### Managing Risk: Policy and Institutions

■ Wednesday, 14 May 2014 ■ 11:15 – 13.00 ■ Congress Hall ■

#### Background

Africa has one of the highest levels of disaster impacts and climate vulnerability in the world. This is due to the heavy reliance on rain-fed agriculture and the rapid move towards urbanization with settlements springing up in many cities with poor urban planning and infrastructure. The situation is exacerbated by more severe weather and climate extremes leading to the risk of more severe droughts and floods. In recent years, extreme weather and climate events have taken many lives and caused billions of dollars in economic losses across many countries in Africa.

Many countries in Africa have developed disaster risk reduction mechanisms in terms of policies and institutional frameworks as outlined in the '*Africa status report on Disaster Risk Reduction, 2013*'. Despite these mechanisms, the actual impacts on reduced vulnerability are yet to be consolidated and coordination of DRR across sectors is weak and disjointed. It is time therefore that governments and partners build policy, institutions, programmes, knowledge, legal instruments and plans to deal with disaster risks in terms of prevention, mitigation, preparedness for response and recovery.

Besides human vulnerability, the exposure of assets to economic loss and social disruption should also be addressed in long term manner through sustainable institution. Experiences and recent studies conducted in previous years indicate that risk are increasingly caused by human activity and generated by development pathways with minima natural hazards causes. As one of the fastest growing continent, Africa should focus on disaster risk reduction strategies and programmes to face



Photo Credit: Mashable

all extremes of climate and resilient approaches to ensure sustainable development and stability. Africa's future risk profile will continue to be characterized by a high to medium vulnerability as well as high exposure of economic and community assets. Managing the risk of crises, rather than simply responding to them when they occur, saves lives and money. Disaster can often be predicted and, while their prevention and mitigation is widely supported in theory, it too rarely takes place in practice and reaches community at risk.

As we continue to implement the HFA, and as we move to the post-2015 framework for DRR, more emphasis should be placed on national assets such as infrastructures, schools, hospitals, public and private investments, service delivery system for both citizen and business sector and their right to access information for informed decision making process and a well-adapted community.

### **Guidance for Discussion**

1. What are hindrances that have slowed the implementation of HFA despite having in place policy, legal and institutional mechanisms in many countries in Africa?
2. How can we repackage policy and legislation to become effective tools for managing current and future risks through tackling exposure, economic losses; Scaling up vulnerability reduction; and confronting hazards induced by climate change?
3. What do you consider as important Institutional arrangement for effective or operational DRR interventions?
4. Are there firm policy, legal and institutional commitments that can be made foster better and effective risk management in the post 2015 framework for disaster risk reduction?

## **PLENARY SESSION**

### **Balanced Development: Risk Sensitive Planning**

■ **Wednesday 14 May 2014** ■ **14:30 – 16:00** ■ **Congress Hall** ■

### **Background**

In Africa, cities are an opportunity for development and challenges for risk accumulation. At 3.9% per year, urban population growth rates in Africa have been and will continue to be the highest in the world (World Bank, 2013). Cities are engines for economic growth and can play a key role as a national economic booster producing up to 80% of GDP. African cities can follow this path if urban investment takes in account the risk component through strong public and private partnerships (PPPs) and local risk governance structures that support resilient city development with active citizen/community participation.

Africa faces enormous development challenges in urban areas where unplanned housing proliferates without proper sanitation and hygiene including adequate sewage systems, access to basic social services is poor, and insecurity and poverty are growing. Most of the cities have been built during the colonial period and lack new infrastructure and poor service delivery to cope with the urban population growth rates is an endemic problem.

African countries that mostly engage in agricultural activities may suffer from the effects of climate change and this may affect the livelihoods of the rural population and reduce growth levels of the rural economy. This in turn can result in increased rural-urban migration which has consequences on demographic pressure on existing limited urban infrastructure and services.

Small to medium towns can benefit from significant DRR investment as part of overall sustainable development frameworks and this may create appropriate living conditions to reduce "forced"



Photo Credit: survivingglobalrecession.com

migration to cities. Urban disaster could have an adverse national long-term impact. Reducing urban risk and building resilient approaches to urban development can thus provide an opportunity to consolidate development opportunities and minimise challenges associated with an array of potential hazards.

Governments have already recognized the importance of reducing urban risk. The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters calls on national governments to: 'Incorporate disaster risk assessments into the urban planning and management of disaster-prone human settlements, in particular highly populated areas and quickly urbanizing settlements'. Moreover, UNISDR has developed the 'Making Cities Resilient' campaign to help empower new and developing cities to become more resilient through the provision of infrastructure, food security, health and water to its citizens, thereby promoting good governance starting from the local authorities up to the national government.

Self-assessment and ongoing monitoring of the progress made from the use of the various tools developed by UNISDR and its partners for urban governments and stakeholders can help to develop resilience action plans with a strong DRR component.

### **Guidance for Discussion**

1. What will be the role of Regional Economic Communities in providing support to ensure active participation of mayors and local authorities in DRR? What can we do right now? What can we do to ensure their increasing role in DRR activities in the future?
2. The urban population is growing fast and there is not enough capacity to provide qualitative services to citizens and businesses. If appropriate services cannot be provided to the general population, neither vulnerability nor exposure can be reduced. Please provide some elements/recommendations to address this situation.
3. Urbanisation is an irreversible trend. What measures may be put in place to ensure that investments are directed to rural areas to reduce risk accumulation in big cities and ensure enhanced living standards in rural areas?

4. What should be the priority areas of intervention in order to commence effective urban risk management?
5. Appropriate climate adaptation programmes and DRR programmes in rural areas may reduce “forced” migration to cities. What are the key elements to make this happen?
6. How can urban risk reduction help in achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs)?

### **Expected Outcomes**

1. Report from this session will be given to the drafting community to summarize its content and integrate main issues into the final documents
2. Strategies on reducing risk accumulation in cities defined
3. Appropriate/priority measures for a transitional framework to urbanisation identified
4. Role of local authorities in DRR and local sustainable development enhanced.

## **PLENARY SESSION**

### **Integrating DRR and Climate Change Adaptation for Resilience**

■ Thursday, 15 May 2014 ■ 09:15 – 11:00 ■ Congress Hall ■

#### **Background**

Climate plays a major role in shaping the risk profile of Africa, mainly food security, access to safe water, health and environmental sustainability. These sectors also play a major role in the pursuit of sustainable development goals (SDGs) and overall poverty reduction. Africa’s current and future risk profile continues to be characterised by a ‘duality’ of high to medium vulnerability as well as high exposure of economic and community assets to risks. A rapidly changing global climate is expected to exacerbate risks with increasingly unforeseen climate extremes and water stress

While climate extreme and water stress are clearly related to climate change/variability, the role of human activity should be highlighted as a factor that causes disasters and increases the impact of natural hazards. Desertification, deforestation, and poor urban planning can amplify the impact of natural hazards to cause disasters.

Due to the inter-connectivity of the river basin systems and the expected water stress highlighted in the latest IPCC Assessment Report (AR5) and the Special Report on Extreme Events (SREX), there is real need to develop a regional approach to appropriate risk sharing between the different countries and communities. Climate science and related technology is rapidly advancing and could help to anticipate risks and support disaster risk reduction decision-making processes to address related risks. Dialogue between climate service providers, end-users and donors is necessary to develop risk reduction programmes based on climate forecasts with appropriate funding mechanisms

The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has highlighted the changing characteristics of weather extremes, posing challenges for medium and long-term risk reduction and sustainable development planning. The effectiveness of systems and processes to manage climatic change will greatly affect the nature of competition and contest over a changing natural resource base.

More than half of the world's population lives in cities and urban settlements, where investments in urban development generate new risks or exacerbate existing ones. Urban flooding has already become the leading form of disaster in the world, according to the Global Risks Report 2014. It is projected that most of urban growth will occur in middle- and lower-income countries, which have more limited capacity to manage these risks and thus low levels of resilience, and in coastal areas which are exposed to rising sea levels, storms, or tsunamis.

Anticipating risk and providing early warning systems is also an entry point for the public and private sector as it is useful to protect existing business activities and to guide future investments. Development of DRR programmes, related regulatory frameworks and resilience strategies is not a question for Africa, it is a necessity. Dialogue between key actors should be encouraged to find the best mechanisms for innovative strategies, and to build and apply knowledge to ensure DRR and resilience are integrated into strategic and operational planning processes.

The Africa Regional Platform provides an opportune moment to discuss these issues and find the best way for Africa to contribute to the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction by ensuring that Africa's current and future risks are considered.

### Guidance for Discussion

- The integration of climate change into disaster risk reduction has become a priority in the global agenda therefore, community perspectives on climate change, adaptation and its impact can better inform future actions and strategies. In order to reduce risk, it is imperative that communities adapt to the changing climate. It has been proven that building resilience to disasters no longer means anticipating and responding to sudden-onset hazards,

*This session addresses the integration of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in order to continue building resilience in communities. The session will provide further input and evidence pertaining to the benefits of engaging the operational national Meteorological, hydrological, and climate services with the wider DRR institutional mechanisms and networks to ensure that the decisions are informed by science-based high quality information.*

*A critical message to the platform is the need to further strengthen these technical capacities and through strategic partnerships and coordination mechanisms ensure that the benefits of these services are operationally realized in public and private sector decision-making.*



Photo Credit: Discovery News

but acting now to mitigate impacts of slow-onset hazards that have the potential to cause lasting and unrecoverable losses.

- Anticipating risk has become a key concept in DRR but is still not fully integrated. What kinds of actions are needed to invest effectively in anticipated risk management?
- DRR and CCA have a lot to share. It is well recognized by the SREX report and some national and regional policy and strategy documents. How can funding mechanism “tracks” as well as institutional coverage be integrated for a more effective integration of DRR and CCA in order to achieve more resilient states and societies?
- Building resilience within communities for safety of people, their livelihoods and property is a high priority. What investments in development and strengthening of national institutions need to be undertaken in order to strengthen the integration of DRR with CCA? What policies are necessary to facilitate the integration of CCA into DRR?
- DRR, CCA and Sustainable Development are complementary pieces of the “future we want”. What will be the main pillars to build for the future (but start building now) and how to ensure better integration of these agendas including resilience?

### Proposed Outcomes

- How does this feed into the Africa Regional Platform outcome?
- The need to adapt to climate change is a key vulnerability driver as climate change has the potential to undermine the attainment of the MDGs/ SDG goals, affecting priority areas such as: livelihood security, water resource, ecosystems and health.
- The predicted increase of climate extremes and water stress provide a good basis to build resilience and operationalize DRR and make it effective to reduce related/predicted risks.
- Main ideas and concrete suggestions identified to be part of the Africa contribution to the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

## PLENARY SESSION

### Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction: The Business Case

■ Thursday 15 May 2014 ■ 11:15 – 13:00 ■ Congress Hall ■

#### Background

Africa’s economic growth has surged over the past years and is comfortably ahead of the global average growth. Notwithstanding differences between the successes and drivers of the 50-plus individual economies, overall private investment inflows are increasing.

Significant investments are being made in infrastructure and construction in African cities experiencing the world’s most rapid urbanization. In order to ensure sustainability and resilience of newly built infrastructure there is an urgency to increase awareness of disaster risk reduction as an opportunity to make investments resilient.

Every business operates within public space and regulation; building and relying on public assets such as infrastructure. This trend of public-private dependency in urban areas clearly highlights the role of business for disaster risk reduction. Business leaders need to think beyond the resilience of business operations, value chains and business continuity. As such, the involvement and input from business to the Africa Contributions to Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction is essential.

This session highlights the Business Case for DRR and offers the opportunity for business and governments alike to share and understand good practices of collaboration to contribute to the continents' resilience. Business will discuss what they can bring to the table and what is needed from governments to un-tap the potential of business solutions for disaster risk reduction.

**Guidance for Discussion:**

- How can private business contribute to more resilient infrastructure and urban development of rapidly expanding cities?
- Which areas of public policy and regulation create an enabling environment for public-private partnerships for resilience of cities and urban areas?
- What can the business community do collectively to advance resilience on the African continent and to raise awareness for disaster risk reduction, among business, governments and the general public.

**Outcomes:**

- Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.

# PARALLEL SESSIONS

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## PARALLEL SESSION

### Risk Financing

■ Wednesday 14 May 2014 ■ 14:30 – 16:00 ■ Borno & Anambra ■

#### Background

Risk financing mechanisms help developing countries increase their financial resilience against disasters within the broader disaster risk management and climate change adaptation frameworks in general, and through appropriate tools and strategies in particular. Risk financing has hence emerged as a valid link connecting disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) with investments for resilience.



Photo Credit: Katie Naeve / Oxfam America

#### Guidance for Discussion

The key questions that the panel may consider include:

- How well is the link between risk identification and risk financing understood?
- Risk insurance is but one tool for risk financing. What are the other tools, and how far have these been explored in Africa?
- Africa is home to continental as well as community-based local risk financing mechanisms. How and where do these two scales meet?

- Risk financing and insurance linked with safety net programmes have proven to be an effective mechanism. How can such good practices be scaled up? What are the other practices through which risk financing mechanisms have proven to be effective?
- How can existing risk financing mechanisms be leveraged to strengthen fiscal risk management at national level?

## Outcomes

The session on risk financing would highlight key issues in this subject matter and provide recommendations to a new approach of risk management as envisaged in the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, viz. addressing existing risks and preventing future risks, with the aim to enhancing resilience of communities and nations, using risk financing as a tool and approach.

## PARALLEL SESSION

### Leadership for Disaster Risk Reduction Mainstreaming

[Linked with Pre-Conference Event: DRR Mainstreaming and Investment for Resilient Structural Transformation of Africa, UNDP & UNECA]

■ Wednesday May 14, 2014 ■ 14:30 – 16:00 ■ Plateau Room ■

## Background: Africa's structural transformation

African countries have embraced structural economic transformation as the continent's development pathway and this transformation is at the heart of Africa's common position on the Post-2015 global development Agenda. Despite the impressive economic growth rate averaging 5 per cent per year over the past decade, the growth has not been fully inclusive and has not resulted in maximum productivity gains.<sup>1</sup> Inequalities are worsening and poverty persists with almost half the population in sub-Saharan Africa living on less than 1.25 US dollars a day.

Harnessing Africa's natural resources endowment in a sustainable manner is also among the key pillars of the region's transformation drive.

Disasters strongly affect development patterns and outcomes. They are associated with loss of lives, damage to physical, natural and environmental assets, losses in human and financial wealth, erosion of social capital and governance systems. Disasters contribute to between 3 and 15 per cent of annual loss of GDP in African countries.

The increasing incidents and severity of disasters in the region therefore pose a major challenge that stands in the way of the continent realizing accelerated and sustainable structural transformation. According to the just released IPCC Working Group II contribution to the 5th Assessment Report, "throughout the 21st century, climate-change impacts are projected to slow down economic growth,

<sup>1</sup> Ministerial Statement of Seventh Joint Annual Meetings of the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance. [http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/uploaded-documents/COM/com2014/ministerial\\_statement.pdf](http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/uploaded-documents/COM/com2014/ministerial_statement.pdf)

make poverty reduction more difficult, further erode food security, and prolong existing and create new poverty traps, the latter particularly in urban areas and emerging hotspots of hunger.<sup>2</sup>

Africa's economic transformation could therefore be severely undermined by failure to adopt and invest in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, as part of the transformation agenda.

Strengthening the link between DRR/CCA and the development policies, plans and programmes pursued by countries is therefore crucial in ensuring accelerated and resilient transformation.

It is against this backdrop that this pre-conference event is being organized in the lead-up to Africa Regional Platform on DRR.

## Objectives

- Enhance knowledge and catalyse approaches and concrete actions at national, regional and global levels to link DRR with and integrate it into the development strategies including structural transformation.
- Raise awareness on existing gaps and challenges related to DRR investment in the continent and promote more efficient and effective resource allocation processes for DRR investment as part of the transformative development frameworks in Africa.

The event will comprise the following:

- A keynote presentation and panel discussions on DRR mainstreaming and sharing of experiences/good practices and lessons learned in mainstreaming and implementation of DRR in Africa.
- A keynote presentation and panel discussions on DRR investment in Africa

Key conclusions and recommendations from the key note presentations and panel discussion will be synthesized as a contribution to the Africa position on post-2015 DRR framework.

## Outcomes

- The main expected output of the event is a report of the event containing key conclusions and recommendation to enhance DRR mainstreaming and investment in Africa.
- The main expected outcomes are:
  - (i) Enhanced understanding of the importance and necessity to undertake and scale up DRR mainstreaming and investment as part of the transformative agenda of the region.
  - (ii) Agreed upon elements on DRR mainstreaming and investment to feed into Africa's position to the post-2015 DRR framework (HFA 2) to rally and mobilise international support for DRR mainstreaming and investment.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://ipcc-wg2.gov/AR5/images/uploads/IPCC\\_WG2AR5\\_SPM\\_Approved.pdf](http://ipcc-wg2.gov/AR5/images/uploads/IPCC_WG2AR5_SPM_Approved.pdf)

# PARALLEL ROUND TABLE

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## UN Delivering as One for Disaster Risk Reduction: Implementing the UN Plan of Action on DRR for Resilience

■ Wednesday 14 May 2014 ■ 14:30 – 16:00 ■ Imo & Cross River ■

### Background

Experience demonstrates that the United Nations is an effective partner to support countries' and communities' efforts to reduce disaster and climate risk. With its Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience, the UN is now equipped to work with national and local authorities and communities to adapt to new realities and changing risk scenarios and to anchor disaster risk in their sustainable development plans and programmes.

The leadership of UN Resident Coordinators, the strategic and principle-based nature of the UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF), combined with the sectorial and technical expertise of UN agencies; all form the basis of the UN's work on disaster risk reduction. The UN is also aligning its humanitarian engagement in Africa with national development aspirations to enable communities to be effectively prepared and to manage their basic needs in the aftermath of crisis and ensure that response and recovery efforts put them on a path towards long-term development.

The *Parallel Round Table: UN Delivering as One for DRR – Implementing the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience* provides an opportunity for delegates and partners to understand how the UN can assist national and local efforts to reduce disaster and climate risk. The Panel will provide examples of current practices in Africa and the commitment and principles that guide the UN's country level work with regard to disaster risk and resilience building.

### Guidance for Discussion:

1. What do countries expect from the UN post-2015 regarding disaster risk reduction?
2. How can the UN Plan of Action on DRR for Resilience provide an effective mechanism to strengthen coordination and UN Delivering as One?
3. How can the UN be a catalyst for change that sets disaster risk reduction as a principle for sustainable development?
4. What are the replicable models for exiting the poverty/disaster/humanitarian assistance spiral? How can the UN assist?

### Outcomes:

- The AfRP 14 outcomes should include a strong call on the UN system to anchor disaster risk reduction into its development system as a principle of sustainable development.
- The UN system needs to converge around the actions set-out in the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience and convey progress in this regard at the next African Regional Platform.

# SPECIAL EVENTS

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## SPECIAL EVENT

### Enhancing Coordination : Role of National Platforms

■ Thursday, 15 May 2014 ■ 9:15 – 11:00 ■ Benue & Enugu ■

#### Background

National Platforms are nationally based multi-stakeholder entities. They are multi-sectoral and multi-hazard forums or committees working on disaster risk reduction. National Platforms coordinate the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and serve as the coordinating mechanism for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development policies, planning and programmes.

Thirty two countries in Africa have created national platforms (NPs) or similar coordinating mechanisms to accelerate the integration of disaster risk reduction (DRR) into national development planning and programmes. Governments have played a significant role in raising the awareness and visibility of DRR in Africa through dialogue, advocacy and role play.

The work of National Platforms is to link DRR to government decision-making processes. To do this National Platforms have to ensure operational mainstreaming of DRR into development programmes as well as ensuring operational conditions to support the paradigm shift required to move from disaster response to risk-centred planning for resilience.

National Platforms have low capacity to support the implementation of HFA objectives at the national level due to various reasons, including lack of funding; lack of a legal mandate; positioning in government institutions; lack of dedicated staff to support and coordinate annual work plans, lack of political support and a high turnover of representatives.

Additionally, national platforms have limited interaction with DRR knowledge generating centers such as universities and research institutions and hence no new thinking and innovations are being enhanced.

#### Guidance for Discussion:

- Reflecting on the significant role played by national platforms in HFA, their achievements and challenges, how can we strengthen NPs effectiveness and sustainability?
- Are there SMART indicators that can be generated to measure NPs performance and effectiveness in the DRR process?
- Given the challenges, should we continue with NPs or look to a new institutional mechanism to support post-2015 framework?
- What commitment can we make for national and sub-regional DRR platforms to effectively contribute to the post 2015 framework?

#### Outcomes:

Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.

## SPECIAL EVENT

### Urban Resilience and Recovery

[Organised by UN-HABITAT]

■ Thursday, 15 May 2014 ■ 09:15 – 11:00 ■ Borno & Anambra ■

#### Context

Africa is experiencing rapid urban growth. The average annual urban growth rate is 3% higher than the global average of 1.97%. Predictions as mentioned in the 'World Urbanization Prospects, 2011' show that this pace will continue to up to 2020. As a result, more than half of the African population - around 57.7 - will be in urban areas by 2050. Considering this rapid population growth, the current urbanization pace means that almost 1.3 billion people will be living in cities in Africa by 2050, compared to 400 million at present.

The fast-paced urban growth in Africa is resulting in millions of new urban-dwellers living in unsafe neighbourhoods or slums, as both formal and informal infrastructure and service delivery do not include disaster-sensitive social and environmental measures. The continent has witnessed social, economic and environmental challenges brought by rapid urbanization against the backdrop of increasingly devastating urban disasters affecting the continent in recent years, which, in future, will be further aggravated by the effects of Climate Change, calls for urgent action.

The growing incidence of both recurring and high-impact disasters in recent years has made countries think differently and place greater emphasis on building longer-term disaster resilience, rather than simply achieving efficient disaster recovery. In recent times, there appears to be an increasing trend of the emergence of significant time-gaps, stakeholder attention deficit, and declining resource commitments across the supposedly seamless continuum of national and international post disaster responses.

Recovery and reconstruction are increasingly viewed as an essential part of a strategic continuum for building longer term disaster resilience that is intrinsically linked to, and feeds into, ongoing



Photo Credit: Eve Anderson

preparedness and risk reduction work in normal developmental processes. While opportunities for mainstreaming longer-term resilience are perhaps the ripest in the aftermath of a big disaster, governments have not always been able to capitalize fully on these opportunities.

The emergence of a more conducive national and international policy environment for recovery strategy-formulation, planning and implementation holds the key to building recovery-led resilience building. For example, governments may consider developing national policy standards for guiding post disaster recovery, by consolidating past country experiences, existing legal provisions and contemporary international practice.

The future Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA2) provides a platform for such action through a specific, relevant Urban Resilience Goal that reflects the current needs, challenges and opportunities of cities and towns in Africa and the world. Furthermore, HFA-2 provides an opportunity to make resilient recovery a higher and more visible area of action within the entire DRR agenda.

### **Session Objectives & Overview**

The Special Event on Urban Resilience & Recovery, organized by UN-Habitat, aims to identify priorities, gaps and opportunities for cities in Africa to reduce their risk to a multitude of threats, as well as review the tools available to help cities measure, track, and improve their resilience over time and within a post-disaster environment through well planned, coordinated, and implemented recovery and reconstruction programs.

The session is designed to address four pressing questions:

1. How well equipped are African cities to face the increasing challenge of urbanization and shocks triggered by natural and man-made causes?
2. Are city managers and practitioners prepared to plan and intervene in the current context?
3. What tools are available to understand and act on urban risk and strengthen cities' resilience?
4. What policies, standards, and institutional arrangement can government put in place for managing recovery and improving resilience before a disaster strikes?

This session will place an emphasis on Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience as a priority contribution toward the development of the new HFA. The discussion will also seek to identify other ways that resilience as a process can be mainstreamed, and link outcomes from the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015 and Habitat III in 2016.

Recognizing the consensus created by UNISDR's *Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready!*, and UN-Habitat's City Resilience Profiling Programme there is now a need to equip city managers with tools to make Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience a priority in their strategic planning, policy and investment decisions. The session will discuss some of the tools developed for measuring the resilience of Cities, such as the *City Resilience Profiling Tool* developed by UN-Habitat and its partners, and the *Urban Risk Reduction & Resilience Training Tool for Cities*, both of which are presently being tested in several cities, including in Nigeria and Tanzania.

The session will further explore actions being taken at country-level to build the technical capacity needed to implement resilience measures, such as the case of Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, and the Union of Comoros, which has established the *Sub-Regional Technical Centre for Disaster Risk Management, Sustainability and Urban Resilience for Southern Africa (DIMSUR)*.

In addition, the session will discuss the following set of Recovery and Reconstruction policy recommendations to be considered for endorsement by countries and subsequent adoption in HFA-2. These include:

- Development of national and international policy standards for informing and guiding disaster recovery strategies;
- Formalized strategic and resource commitments towards recovery planning, implementation and performance management;
- Promoting the institutionalization of recovery with DRR stakeholders as a means to more resilient recovery.

These and other opportunities will be discussed during the session, with the participation of urban disaster specialists, representative from local governments and disaster practitioners, and other expert stakeholders.

## **SPECIAL EVENT**

### **Ecosystem Management for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation**

**[Organised by IUCN]**

**■ Thursday, 15 May 2014 ■ 11:15 – 13:00 ■ Benue & Enugu ■**

## **Background**

Since the establishment of the Hyogo Framework for Action, major disasters such as the Western Indian Ocean Tsunami, Hurricane Katrina and the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake have clearly demonstrated the role of healthy and well-managed ecosystems in hazard mitigation. The role of nature in disaster risk reduction (DRR), response and relief as well as recovery and reconstruction has increasingly been recognized and promoted in the last decade – both for rapid and slow-onset disasters. While the current HFA highlights the critical need to halt environmental degradation in order to reduce vulnerabilities from hazards, nature as a *solution* for risk management must be included in the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. The rationale and key activities to protect restore and sustainably use ecosystem services should be included as a priority for action in the resulting framework. It should also be referred to as an innovative approach to promote for DRR, and help secure people's livelihoods together with helping to adapt to climate change.

This session aims to:

- Share the rationale and arguments for the role of ecosystems in disaster risk reduction (and climate change adaptation in the longer term);
- Present demonstrative examples of implementation and multiple benefits of ecosystem based DRR using case studies from Africa;
- Enhance the appreciation and understanding of how nature based solutions for DRR can be operationalised from global to local levels.



Photo Credit: RMurti / IUCN

### **Guidance for Discussion:**

- How is the approach relevant to Africa?
- How can the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction support countries to implement ecosystem based DRR?

### **Outcomes**

Key recommendations for Africa's contribution to the post-2015 framework for DRR.

## **SPECIAL EVENT**

### **Meteorological and climate services to support disaster risk reduction in a changing climate**

**[Organized by WMO, AMCOMET, GFCS with support from UNISDR and IFRC]**

**■ Thursday 15 May 2014 ■ 11:15 – 13:00 ■ Borno & Anambra ■**

## **Background**

Every year, disasters due to weather-, climate- and water-related hazards cause significant life and economic losses. In Africa, from 1970 to 2012, 1,319 reported disasters caused the loss of approximately 698,380 lives and economic damages of US\$ 26.6 billion. The worst ten reported disasters in terms of human deaths were associated with floods and droughts which accounted for 97% of the total number of lives lost and 42% of reported economic losses. The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (5AR, IPCC) has highlighted the changing characteristics of weather extremes, posing challenges for medium and long-term risk reduction and sustainable development planning.

The session will include presentations from panellists on national/regional experiences that demonstrate the significant benefits that can be realized through the access and use of high-quality weather and climate services in support of risk management associated with hydro-meteorological hazards. It will further highlight, through existing case studies, the benefits of engaging National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) and the wider DRR institutional mechanisms and networks, ensuring informed decision-making using science-based information. It will also address the need to further strengthen these technical capacities and, through strategic partnerships and coordination mechanisms, ensure that the benefits of these services are operationally realized in public and private sector decision-making.

Finally, the session will also provide indicative ways in which these challenges could be addressed by leveraging the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) and its implementation plan developed through African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) and the African Union Commission (AUC) processes, the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) Initiative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) as well as through the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

AMCOMET is the authority and high-level mechanism that fosters political will and offers policy support to strengthen the NMHSs in Africa enabling them to fully perform their mandate to provide customer-tailored weather and climate services to key sectors that contribute to socio-economic development in Africa, including Agriculture, Water, Health, and Disaster Risk Reduction.

The WMO is the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the oceans, the climate it produces and the resulting distribution of water resources. WMO is spearheading the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) established in 2012 as a globally-coordinated collective that brings the organizations engaged in producing climate services together with the stakeholders that need this information. The GFCS has identified disaster risk reduction as one of the four priority areas for implementation.

# GUIDELINES

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## CHAIRS, MODERATORS, KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND DISCUSSANTS

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### General Guidance

Please ensure that you have read the documents on [www.preventionweb.net/afrp/2014](http://www.preventionweb.net/afrp/2014) especially the “Proposed Elements for Consideration in the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, Margareta Wahlström.

Managing risk requires a variety of instruments and initiatives at local, national, regional and global levels. Many aspects of risk management in Africa were agreed in the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2004 and adopted by Ministers in the Declaration of the 2nd African Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and its Extended Programme of Action.

Please ask yourselves what is currently missing or unclear but if agreed would support more effective risk management at the regional and national levels.

In guiding discussion on Africa’s contribution to a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, consider some of the following in the light of consultations to date and emerging themes in Africa:

- Call for a post-2015 framework that places emphasis on prevention of emerging risks and reduction of existing risks and the strengthening of community resilience, including through the development of sound accountability frameworks engaging public and private stakeholders together with civil society and development partners;
- Call for countries to develop plans and policies to manage risk by preventing its creation and accumulation, among others, the commitment to work on integrating at national level the management of risk associated with development and climate change;
- Commit to strengthening existing regional cooperation mechanisms to ensure the integrated management of disaster risk in a multi-hazard context thus engaging development and climate experts and widening the participation of stakeholders at all levels; and
- Commit to supporting system partner coordination (UN, regional, national and local) for strengthened DRR cooperation on integrated development approaches for resilience.

## ORDER OF SESSIONS

### Plenary Sessions

The Master of Ceremonies calls the house in order and invites the panellists (Chair, Moderator, Principal Speaker and Discussants) on the dais.

### Parallel Sessions

The Chair calls the house in order and invites other panellists (Moderator, Principal Speaker and Discussants) on the dais.

### Special Events

The representative of the organising agency calls the house in order and invites the panellists (Chair, Moderator, Principal Speaker and Discussants) on the dais.

### **The Chair:**

1. Briefly introduces the subject of discussion and the session objectives based on the session concept note (5 minutes)
2. On the basis of biographical notes, supplied by UNISDR or organising agency, introduces Moderator, Principal Speaker and Discussants (3 minutes)
3. The Chair explains the speaking order and method of proceeding as follows:
  - Principal speaker makes his/her presentation (7 minutes)
  - Moderator poses questions to the discussants (2 questions each 3 minute responses)
  - Moderator opens the house for plenary discussion (30 minutes)
  - Moderator sums up discussant and plenary discussion (5 minutes)
  - Chair makes short concluding remarks and closes the meeting (3 minutes)

### **The Moderator:**

See above Moderator's role with Chair

1. Presents the discussants and asks questions (2 questions each 3 minute responses)
2. Opens the house for plenary discussion (30 minutes)
3. Asks discussants to clarify as required and respond to audience questions
4. Summarizes the discussions before Chair closes the meeting (5 minutes)

### **The Principal Speaker:**

The Principal Speaker has a role to play in identifying the issues and emerging trends and why these matter.

- Make a focussed presentation of 7 minutes
- Could be requested by the Chair to contribute additional points to the Moderator's summary.

### **The Discussants**

Discussants are generally subject or technical experts

- Each discussant will be asked 2 questions by the Moderator with 3 minutes to respond to each question.
- Respond to questions asked by participants as requested by Moderator

### **The Note-Takers**

Two sets of note-takers will be provided for each session:

1. Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
2. Staff of African Union, UNISDR and partner organisations

The note takers will be provided standard templates for taking notes.

### List of Note-Takers (TBC)

Name	Session	Date	Time
Julius Kabubi	Plenary	Balanced Development: Risk Sensitive Planning	14 May 14:30-18:00
Mathewos Hunde	Parallel Session	Leadership Development for DRR Mainstreaming	14 May 14:30-17:00
Leah Naess Wanambwa	Parallel Session	Risk Financing	14 May 14:30-15:00
Sam van den Berg	Parallel Session	Parallel Round Table UN Delivering as One	14 May 14:30-16:00
Julius Kabubi	Special Event	National Platforms	15 May 09:00-11:00
Leah Naess Wanambwa	Special Event	Linking AMCOMET with DRR	15 May 11:00-13:00
Mathewos Hunde	Special Event	Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction	15 May 11:00-13:00
Sam van den Berg	Special Event	Building Urban Resilience	15 May 09:00-11:00

### Additional Guidance

Guidance for individual sessions with names and titles of the Chair, Principal Speakers and Discussants will be supplied by the Session focal points or facilitators.

For additional information:

Contact: Animesh Kumar [[animesh.kumar@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:animesh.kumar@unisdr.unon.org)]

# GUIDELINES

## VOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS

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The aim of stakeholders' voluntary commitments is to contribute to sustainable socio-economic development and to support the implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

1. Voluntary commitments should strengthen already existing governments and inter-governmental agreements in support of building resilience for nations and communities;
2. Voluntary commitments should be a reflection of stakeholders' joint ownership of agreed DRR actions for effective and efficient post 2015 DRR process to attain targets in community resilience globally, regional, sub-regionally and nationally;
3. In order to be practical, meaningful and actionable, voluntary commitments should be SMART, thus providing targets, indicators and means of verification on the commitment as well to periodic self-assessment to measure progress in the implementation of the post-HFA framework for DRR;
4. Commitments should provide linkage of short term (quick wins) DRR and resilience interventions with long term planning at local, regional and global levels especially those that stakeholders recommend for the post-2015 DRR framework
5. In the light of global and regional consultations to date and the goals that have emerged in relation to a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, voluntary commitments could focus on 1) risk prevention and the pursuit of development pathways that minimize disaster risk generation; 2) risk reduction, i.e. actions to address existing accumulation of disaster risk; and 3) strengthened resilience, i.e. actions that enable nations and communities to absorb loss and damage, minimize impacts and bounce forward.
6. Moreover, within the specific focus of each of the three above-mentioned goals, the voluntary commitments may concern deliverables at local, national, regional, and global levels, depending on the capacity and competence of the specific stakeholder.
7. It is critical to stress that voluntary commitments are not to be intended as fundraising means or calls for projects.

### **Suggested Basic Template for Stakeholder Consultation Reports**

1. Name of stakeholder group:
2. Brief narrative (300 words max) on inputs to post-2015 DRR framework
3. Deliverables and Commitments

An example in the given template has been annexed.

## **Annex: Example of a Stakeholder Consultation Report**

### **Narrative (300 words)**

- El Nino is coming, will affect agriculture, livelihoods and water supply
- We commit to supporting national El Nino/ seasonal forecast initiative through awareness raising and training in all our community programmes.

Related to goal 1 (risk prevention)/2 (risk reduction)/3 (strengthening resilience)

- Risk Prevention

**Level:** local / national / regional / global

National to Local

Targets

### **EXAMPLE**

- All communities where we operate will be familiar with El Nino forecasts and how to act on them (programmes currently in 12 countries with offices in 400 communities)

Indicators

### **EXAMPLE**

- Seasonal forecasts acted on in all communities we work with

Means of Verification:

- Feedback on actions taken reported to Organizations HQ and NDMO (through HFA Monitor)

Timeframe:

- By 2015

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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## MEETING SCHEDULE AND VENUE

The meeting of the Africa Regional Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction is scheduled to take place on 13-16 May 2014 at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel, in Abuja, Nigeria.

### Details of the meeting venue

#### Transcorp Hilton Hotel

1 Aguiyi Ironsi Street Maitama,  
Abuja, 900001, Nigeria  
Tel: +234-708-060-3000  
Fax: +234-9-904-4025

## TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

### FOR SPONSORED PARTICIPANTS

The UNISDR Regional Office for Africa or partner organisation will provide travel support to sponsored participants, as communicated. This will include a round trip air ticket by the most economical route in economy class only and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) to cover expenses of the sponsored participants. The UNISDR Regional Office for Africa will contact the sponsored participants directly in connection with travel arrangements.

Sponsored participants are not authorized to purchase their own ticket. The request of reimbursement of air ticket purchased by sponsored participants is not permissible under UN rules.

In case a change to the ticket once issued is required, the participants should contact the airline directly. This will be considered as a personal request, and the participants are responsible for covering from their own funds any additional cost due to changes made.

### FOR SELF-SPONSORED PARTICIPANTS

All other participants are required to make travel arrangements at their cost.

## IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS

For UNISDR-sponsored participants, the visa fee will be reimbursed upon presentation of an official receipt.

### COUNTRIES WITH EMBASSY/HIGH COMMISSION/MISSION OF NIGERIA

Please check with the Embassy of Nigeria in your respective countries for individual country visa requirements. Individual visa support letters will be provided to you by UNISDR. Please send a copy of your passport to [humphrey.ngunjiri@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:humphrey.ngunjiri@unisdr.unon.org) and [UNISDR.Interns@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:UNISDR.Interns@unisdr.unon.org). This will be helpful in sending visa support letters to facilitate visa issue (both sponsored and self-sponsored participants).

### COUNTRIES WITHOUT EMBASSY/HIGH COMMISSION/MISSION OF NIGERIA

Please send a copy of your passport to [humphrey.ngunjiri@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:humphrey.ngunjiri@unisdr.unon.org) with a copy to [UNISDR.Interns@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:UNISDR.Interns@unisdr.unon.org), reconfirming that there is no Embassy of Nigeria in your country and requesting for our assistance to be issued with a visa upon arrival.

### DELEGATES TRAVELLING ON DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT / UN LAISSEZ PASSER

The same rules as above apply for holders of diplomatic passport or United Nations Laissez Passer. However, there is no visa fee for these passports.

## VACCINES AND MEDICINES

Make sure you are up-to-date on routine vaccines before your trip. The government of Nigeria also *requires* proof of yellow fever vaccination if you are traveling from a country with risk of yellow fever (for complete list, see

[wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2014/chapter-3-](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2014/chapter-3-)

infectious-diseases-related-to-travel/yellow-fever#1948). Other important vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot.

It is advisable to check the vaccines and medicines list and visit your doctor (ideally, 4-6 weeks) before your trip to get vaccines or medicines you may need. The list of general vaccines is annexed.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

All participants are strongly recommended to obtain Travel Insurance prior to travel. For UNISDR-sponsored participants, this cost has been included in the DSA provided as miscellaneous expenses. Emergency and hospital claims are NOT covered by UNISDR in case of accident or illness.

## DAILY SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE

(FOR SPONSORED PARTICIPANTS ONLY)

The daily subsistence allowance (DSA) will be paid by the UNISDR Regional Office for Africa in accordance with UN Rules and Regulations. The DSA payable will be at a reduced rate of 32 percent. Participants' accommodation (on a bed and breakfast basis) while in Nigeria will be paid for by UNISDR. Airport transfer in Nigeria will also be provided for by the workshop organizers.

The participants are also responsible for covering their other related personal costs; such as mini bar in the room, telephone costs, etc.

Kindly note that, the cost of insurance and daily miscellaneous expenses are all included in the DSA. Therefore, the participants **should not request for additional reimbursement**, including any hospitality cost occurred. However visa fees will be reimbursed upon presentation of an official receipt.

For participants who wish to stay before and beyond the official workshop period, expenses will be to their personal account.

## ACCOMMODATION

*FOR SPONSORED PARTICIPANTS ONLY*

Reservations have been made for all sponsored participants at the Rockview Hotel.

*FOR SELF-SPONSORED PARTICIPANTS ONLY*

Participants are encouraged to get in touch with any of the listed hotels to make their accommodation arrangements. Kindly send us details of your hotel reservation for facilitation of local transportation. Participants will be responsible for settling all their expenses at the hotel.

## LOCAL TRANSPORTATION GUIDANCE

The airport is approximately 45 minutes away from the above mentioned hotels.

UNISDR has arranged airport transfer for all participants (including self-sponsored delegates), and the detailed information for the transfer service will be sent in a separate email message.

For all self-sponsored participants, kindly share with us your travel itinerary by the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014 to enable us facilitate for your pick up from the airport

Taxis are available at the airport and costs Naira 5,000 (approx. \$40) for a drive from the airport to the mentioned hotels.

UNISDR will provide transport services from hotels mentioned above to the platform venue (Transcorp Hilton Hotel) in the morning and from platform venue to hotels in the evening. Specific pick-up time will be communicated.

Hotel Name	Contact person	Email Address	Telephone Number	Website	Rate (Naira) <sup>3</sup>	Internet	Complimentary Breakfast	Distance		
								CBD	Hilton	Airport
VALENCIA HOTEL	UBA IKECHUKWU	<a href="mailto:Bookings@valenciahotelsabj.com">Bookings@valenciahotelsabj.com</a>	7039677599	<a href="http://www.valenciahotelsabj.com">www.valenciahotelsabj.com</a>	20,000	YES	NO	1KM	3KM	37KM
REIZ CONTINENTAL HOTEL		<a href="mailto:reizcontinentalhotelabuja@yahoo.com">reizcontinentalhotelabuja@yahoo.com</a>	8036056185	<a href="http://www.reizcontinentalhotel.com">www.reizcontinentalhotel.com</a>	22,000	YES	YES	2KM	3KM	37KM
ONYX APARTMENTS			8165519269		10,000	YES	NO	3KM	4KM	35KM
BOLINGO HOTEL	IJOKO JEFF	<a href="mailto:ijokojeff@yahoo.com">ijokojeff@yahoo.com</a>	8136696000	<a href="http://www.bolingo-towers.com">www.bolingo-towers.com</a>	18,000	YES	NO	2KM	4km	36km
VINES HOTEL	MARK OBLETE	<a href="mailto:sumaconcepts@gmail.com">sumaconcepts@gmail.com</a>	8035959873	<a href="mailto:info@vineshotel.com">info@vineshotel.com</a>	17,000	YES	NO	5KM	7KM	38KM
BOLTON WHITE HOTEL	BERNICE ONOKPEGU	<a href="mailto:boltonwhitehotel@gmail.com">boltonwhitehotel@gmail.com</a>	8035963854	<a href="mailto:info@boltonwhitehotel.com">info@boltonwhitehotel.com</a>	23,000	YES	NO	3KM	3KM	35KM
HILTON HOTEL	FRIDAY DANIEL	<a href="mailto:fridaydaniel@hilton.com">fridaydaniel@hilton.com</a>	8035967797		61,875	YES	NO	1KM	0KM	38KM

### INFORMATION DESK

An information desk will be set up at the venue of the meeting that will provide relevant information as required. Further, in case a delegate is interested in a bilateral meeting with any other delegate please contact the information desk that will maintain a matrix of such potential meetings.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated Exchange Rate: 1 USD = 165 Naira

## FOOD

Breakfast is complementary in the negotiated rate as mentioned for the above mentioned hotels.

During the workshop, lunch, morning/afternoon teas, water and snacks will be provided to all participants.

While breakfast costs are incorporated into daily hotel costs, dinner/supper will be at participants' own expense.

## WORKING LANGUAGE

The working language of the meeting will be English and French. Simultaneous translation (English and French) will be provided.

## LOCAL INFORMATION

- There are hundreds of languages spoken in Nigeria. The official language of Nigeria is English. The other major languages are Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba, Ibibio, Edo, Fulfulde, and Kanuri
- Local standard time is GMT/UTC + 1 hour (West Africa Time).
- Local currency is Nigeria Naira (N), with the UN Exchange Rate estimated at: USD 1.00 equivalent to N 164.95 (April 2014)
- The residential voltage in Nigeria is 220V at a frequency of 50 Hz. Useable plugs are type D and G.

## WEATHER IN ABUJA

Abuja is located in the tropical zone (9° 4' N and 7° 29' E) at an average elevation of 840 m (2,760 ft). Weather during the meeting days (13-16 May) is expected to be wet with an average high of 30°C and low of 19°C (86° F and 66.2° F respectively).

Below is a summary of the weather forecast for the period 12-18 May 2014.

	High	Low	Precipitation	Forecast	Avg. High	Avg. Low
<b>Mon</b> 12 May 2014	29°	23°	3 mm	Cloudy with a thunderstorm	38°	25°
<b>Tue</b> 13 May 2014	29°	23°	2 mm	Cloudy and less humid	38°	26°
<b>Wed</b> 14 May 2014	28°	23°	5 mm	Cloudy with a thunderstorm	38°	26°
<b>Thu</b> 15 May 2014	28°	22°	24 mm	Couple of thunderstorms	38°	26°
<b>Fri</b> 16 May 2014	28°	22°	9 mm	Couple of thunderstorms	38°	26°
<b>Sat</b> 17 May 2014	29°	22°	12 mm	Couple of thunderstorms	38°	25°
<b>Sun</b> 18 May 2014	28°	22°	26 mm	Couple of thunderstorms	38°	25°

Source: [www.accuweather.com](http://www.accuweather.com)

# CONTACT PERSONS

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For further information, please contact:

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**Humphrey Ngunjiri**

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Tel: +254 20 7626719  
E-mail: [humphrey.ngunjiri@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:humphrey.ngunjiri@unisdr.unon.org)

[www.preventionweb.net/afpr/2014](http://www.preventionweb.net/afpr/2014)  
[isdr.afpr@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:isdr.afpr@unisdr.unon.org)

<http://www.unisdr.org/africa>  
[isdr-africa@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:isdr-africa@unisdr.unon.org)

[www.unisdr.org/archive/36907](http://www.unisdr.org/archive/36907)

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**Partner Websites:**

<http://www.odihpn.org/the-humanitarian-space/events/5th-africa-regional-platform-and-ministerial-on-disaster-risk-reduction>

<http://climate-l.iisd.org/events/fifth-africa-regional-platform-for-disaster-risk-reduction>

<http://www.wmo.int/amcomet/en/events/5th-africa-regional-platform-disaster-risk-reduction>

<http://reliefweb.int/training/637344/5th-africa-regional-platform-disaster-risk-reduction>

<http://www.globalnetwork-dr.org/news/407.html>

<http://www.disasterriskreduction.net/east-central-africa/news-and-events/event-detail/en/c/214081/>



UN World Conference on  
Disaster Risk Reduction  
2015 Sendai Japan

# ANNEX: BACKGROUND DOCUMENT

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## Towards a Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

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### INTRODUCTION

1. The *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 (HFA) — Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters*, is the inspiration for knowledge, practice, implementation, experience and the science for disaster risk reduction. As we head toward the end of the current HFA, it is important to outline an approach and shape the discussions on a continuation to be considered at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015.
2. The paper ‘*Towards a Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*’ provides background information (Section A); an outline of trends, progress and challenges (Section B); and, a discussion on what form of a post-2015 framework (Section C). The paper also outlines a consultation process, timeline (Section D), and maps out main events to 2015 (see Timeline).

### A. BACKGROUND

3. The adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005 and its subsequent endorsement by the General Assembly of the United Nations (A/RES/60/195) were the culmination of a process started in 1990, with the declaration of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (A/RES/42/169).
4. In 1994, the *Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World* was adopted at the World Conference on Natural Disasters. In 1999, the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/54/219 adopted the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and created the secretariat of the ISDR (UNISDR) with the purpose to ensure its implementation.
5. In 2003 and 2004, the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) carried out a review of the *Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World*. The *Yokohama Review* formed the basis of the HFA and was submitted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan, in January 2005.
6. As part of the implementation, it was agreed that the HFA would be appropriately reviewed. UNISDR was requested to “prepare periodic reviews on progress towards achieving [its] objectives and priorities.” Subsequently, UNISDR conducted a Mid-Term Review of the HFA in 2010-2011 through a participatory approach involving disaster risk reduction stakeholders.

7. The United Nations General Assembly Resolution 66/199 requested UNISDR to facilitate the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.<sup>1</sup> The Chair's Summary of the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2011 referred to a first outline of a post-2015 framework at the next Global Platform in 2013. A draft should be finalized towards the end of 2014 to be ready for consideration and adoption at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015.

## **B. TRENDS - PROGRESS and CHALLENGES**

### **Exposure to disaster risk is increasing**

8. Between 2002 and 2011, there were 4130 disasters recorded, resulting from natural hazards around the world where 1,117,527 people perished and a minimum of US\$1,195 billion was recorded in losses. In the year 2011 alone, 302 disasters claimed 29,782 lives; affected 206 million people and inflicted damages worth an estimated US\$366 billion.<sup>2</sup>
9. More people and assets are located in areas of high risk. The proportion of world population living in flood-prone river basins has increased by 114%, while those living on cyclone-exposed coastlines have grown by 192% over the past 30 years. Over half of the world's large cities, with populations ranging from 2 to 15 million, are currently located in areas highly vulnerable to seismic activity. Rapid urbanization will further increase exposure to disaster risk.<sup>3</sup>

### **All countries are vulnerable**

10. While developing countries, particularly Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries, are disproportionately affected, the Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami sent a clear message that developed countries are also vulnerable to such severe disasters. Unsustainable development practices, ecosystem degradation, poverty as well as climate variability and extremes have led to an increase in both natural and man-made disaster risk at a rate that poses a threat to lives and development efforts.
11. A new global ranking, by Maplecroft, calculating the vulnerability of 170 countries to the impacts of climate change over the next 30 years, identifies some of the world's largest and fastest-growing economies, as facing the greatest risks to their populations, ecosystems and business environments. In this ranking 16 countries are rated with 'extreme risk,' to future climate effects largely due to significant forecasted growth.<sup>4</sup>

### **Economic consequences**

12. In recent years, there has been a rapid increase in the exposure of economic assets and earning potential to physical hazards. In higher-income countries economic assets and jobs are being created but so is the risk of losing economic assets and livelihoods from a disaster. Loss of economic assets and jobs from disasters has an even greater impact on

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<sup>1</sup> Disaster risk reduction offers a comprehensive framework with which stakeholders can take coherent and complementary actions through political, social, technological, and economic and humanitarian processes to build resilience.

<sup>2</sup> EM-DAT The International Database (CRED). <http://www.emdat.be/>

<sup>3</sup> UNISDR Global Assessment Report 2011: Revealing Risk, Redefining Development.

<sup>4</sup> Maplecroft Climate Change Risk Atlas 2011.

low and middle-income countries. Despite the magnitude of potential costs and loss of income, reducing disaster risks is still often perceived as a lesser priority than fiscal stability, unemployment or inflation. The impact of disasters, when all costs are calculated, can therefore represent major losses for all governments for example in energy, health, housing and education.

13. To take some recent examples, the 2011 Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami caused a 1% shrink, according to the estimated Japanese growth forecast in 2011. In the Asia-Pacific region, this would mean a 0.1 to 0.21% impact on growth to China, Malaysia, India, Singapore, and Philippines, including a 0.2 to 0.5% impact on export growth in these countries due to disruption in inputs from Japan. The floods in Thailand in 2011 not only cost US\$40 billion, they also led to an estimated 2.5% drop in global industrial production.<sup>5</sup>
14. Economic losses from disasters will continue to increase. Since 1981, economic loss from disasters is growing faster than GDP per capita in the OECD countries. This means that the risk of losing wealth in weather-related disasters is now exceeding the rate at which the wealth itself is being created.<sup>6</sup>
15. There is an increasing amount of foreign direct investment and national private investment in infrastructure and manufacturing, agriculture, tourism and services in many developing and middle income countries. Risk is accumulating rapidly as economies grow. New investments need to incorporate disaster risk reduction and mitigation measures otherwise exposure to risk will continue to rise.

### **Recording disaster losses**

16. Few countries systematically account for disaster losses. A clearer indication of losses will allow for more analysis and modeling of reducing risk. Accounting for disaster losses will encourage governments and the private sector to take ownership over their stock of risk and identify strategic trade-offs when making decisions which may have an impact on risk. If national public investment systems truly account for disaster risk, they can reduce losses at a scale impossible to achieve through stand-alone disaster risk management.

### **Disaster risk management in development planning**

17. The need for disaster risk management<sup>7</sup> (and in particular risk assessments) to be an integral component of development plans and poverty eradication programmes is now well accepted among experts. For countries to reduce their vulnerabilities and exposure to risk, a much bolder approach is required. The approach needs to incorporate development mechanisms (such as national public investment planning systems, social protection, and national and local infrastructure investments) to reduce risks and strengthen resilience.
18. There are various practical links between disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and sustainable development. These links have not been fully internalized in the ways in which national government institutions, international development agencies and the United Nations system itself approaches disaster risk management. It is essential to continue

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<sup>5</sup> UNESCAP Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2011—Sustaining Dynamism and Inclusive Development: Connectivity in the Region and Productively Capacity in Least Developed Countries.

<sup>6</sup> UNISDR Global Assessment Report 2011: Revealing Risk, Redefining Development.

<sup>7</sup> Disaster risk management is an approach which can be used in development planning and programmes in order to reduce development-induced risks and vulnerability. The disaster risk management approach includes risk identification, risk assessment, risk treatment and risk communication, which is a part of disaster risk reduction.

● [www.preventionweb.net/afrp/2014](http://www.preventionweb.net/afrp/2014) ● [isdr.afrp@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:isdr.afrp@unisdr.unon.org) ● [isdr-africa@unisdr.unon.org](mailto:isdr-africa@unisdr.unon.org) ●

to harmonize, integrate and embed disaster risk reduction within poverty eradication and sustainable development policies and programmes. Reducing disaster risk and re-enforcing resilience is increasingly seen as part of a new development paradigm where well-being and equity are core values and human and natural assets central to planning and decision-making.

19. The concept of building or reinforcing resilience is helpful in this regard. This implies the development of unified tools supporting greater coherence and coordination among different approaches. A disaster risk management approach leading to an outcome of strengthened resilience would lead to less duplication of efforts, optimized use of available resources; an increased potential for collaborative alliances and joint actions among disciplines; and the ability to provide better guidance for policy makers and practitioners in program design, implementation and evaluation.
20. Exposure to future disasters has the greatest potential to be reduced if disaster risk management approach is incorporated in land use, urban and spatial planning, and in post-disaster reconstruction planning. However, latest data shows that only 15% of low-income countries report success in using land use planning and urban development to reduce risk. Analysis of land use planning processes at the local level reveals that only hazard information are used, and that information is not used for investment or planning decisions.

## **Governance and accountability**

21. Most governments have not fully developed coordinated and coherent action on disaster risk reduction across different sectors and between central and local governments. Institutional arrangements, legislation and policy for disaster risk reduction tend to be anchored, when in place, in disaster response which may not have the authority or capacity to influence decisions related to national development planning and investment. There is a growing recognition about government's responsibility for effective disaster risk reduction policy planning and implementation conducted through a transparent and multi-stakeholder approach.
22. The scale and range of internal and international accountability mechanisms has not been fully explored, nor the potential for such mechanisms to be applied to the field of disaster risk reduction. Accountability measures can guide government and public awareness of, and support for, disaster risk reduction policies. A culture of accountability improves the effectiveness of governance and service delivery.
23. National legislation offers the opportunity to promote the introduction of, and monitor compliance with, monitoring and accountability mechanisms as do parliamentary oversight and national auditing systems. Access to information, particularly information on disaster risks, can also generate a social demand for disaster risk management. A key accountability measure to communities is the extent to which a government is able to address the risk of poorly planned and managed urbanization, environmental degradation, and poverty.

## **Setting of targets**

24. The setting of targets has both inherent challenges and advantages when it comes to generating stronger accountability and accelerating implementation plans. A discussion on a target regime may focus on the areas in which targets could be most effectively established. For example, these may include national risk assessments, early warning systems, water risk management, financial investments in disaster risk management, risk-sensitive land use planning, the enforcement of building codes, and municipal-level disaster recovery plans.

25. The identification and establishment of targets may also be more appropriate at a national or regional level. On the basis of nationally defined targets a regional approach to targets may be considered keeping in due account regional specificities to hazards and progress in HFA implementation. It may also foster cooperation on trans-boundary issues.

### **Local context and action at the community level**

26. Communities and local people assess risk whether it is a natural hazard (e.g. flood, earthquake, landslides) or man-made disaster (e.g. conflict, environmental and industrial accident). Understanding of the local context of vulnerability and exposure therefore is fundamental for reducing risk and determining what mitigation practices can be implemented. Often this will require not only knowledge of natural hazards but also the prevailing political and socioeconomic conditions.
27. The involvement of local governments and communities in the design and implementation of disaster risk management programmes is well-accepted good practice. Such practice is far from being universally applied. Not enough resources are allocated to local governments for disaster risk management. There is limited data on localized losses and difficulties connecting local context with national monitoring systems, loss accounting and risk assessments.
28. Despite the greater spotlight on larger scale more centrally planned adaptation strategies, in some cases communities undertake their own risk reduction efforts – also called “autonomous adaptation,” with very little guidance or coordination from central bodies. In these cases, supporting community action is the appropriate approach.
29. A culture of planning and regulation based on partnerships and joint ownership between local and central governments and risk-prone communities is still far from pervasive. Studies, research and consolidated practice confirm that the involvement of communities, and more in general the adoption of a participatory approach to risk management, represent the most cost-effective and sustainable mechanism for reducing risks.

### **Guidance on “how” to reduce disaster risk**

30. There is a significant amount of information on what good practice is in disaster risk management and what works. There is guidance in some areas including risk assessments with a view to eventually arriving at a common definition of disaster and risk; integration of climate change adaptation and disaster risk management; working at national and local levels; and, vulnerability of communities to the impact of hazards. There has been a strong call to develop and provide more guidance, principles and tools on how good practice is achieved.

### **Progress in the implementation of the HFA**

31. Global, regional and national efforts for disaster risk reduction and reinforcing resilience are increasing. International momentum for disaster risk reduction is currently at play whether in discussions and planning around sustainable development, climate change adaptation, the Millennium Development Goals or more broadly public and private investment strategies. The HFA has been a key to increasing understanding, knowledge and developing approaches and priorities for reducing disaster risk and building resilience. The HFA has been instrumental in embarking on a path of change that is now irreversible.

32. The HFA has proved effective in galvanizing and bringing together the many stakeholders in disaster risk reduction including national and local governments, parliamentary forums, inter-government organizations, non-government organizations, community-based organizations and practitioners, the private sector, academic and technical institutions, the media and international organizations. The HFA has also proven important in supporting regional cooperation and agreements on disaster risk reduction.
33. The HFA has assisted governments to introduce national disaster risk reduction legislation; to set up early warning systems; and, strengthened disaster preparedness and response. HFA Monitor Reports also suggest there has been significant progress against the objectives, goals and priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action. One example is the measurable progress in the reduction in the number of deaths linked to hydro-meteorological hazards as a result of better understanding and improved preparedness and early warning systems.
34. The HFA has helped to link disaster risk reduction to managing climate-related risks and climate change adaptation. The Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Managing the Risk of Extremes and Disasters (IPCC/SREX) (Summary released in November 2011) demonstrates that many measures to address natural hazard risk such as good land use planning, environmental protection and preparedness and early warning systems are effective no-regret actions to adapt to climate change. Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change have also identified the HFA as a pillar of their efforts to adapt to climate change.
35. The HFA is also contributing to the on-going debate leading up to the Rio+20, UN Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012, with many disaster-prone countries making the point that disaster risk reduction offers an approach towards achieving sustainable development without increasing vulnerability and exposure to natural hazards.

## C. FORM OF A POST-2015 FRAMEWORK

36. What should a post-2015 framework on disaster risk reduction be like? Many views and several options have been expressed ranging from a more nuanced version of the existing HFA; some overall guiding principles; a set of normative standards; a framework with a target regime; a legally based instrument for disaster risk reduction; or a combination of the above. There is also a case for pursuing greater leverage for disaster risk reduction as a part of development plans, goals, and targets in the successor to the MDGs as well as outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development.
37. The current HFA has substantively contributed to further disaster risk reduction, but the goals and priorities for action are still far from being achieved. A post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction should build on the current HFA and focus on those elements that are still in need of further action. For example, an unpacking or stronger work on Priority for Action 4 – the Underlying Risk Factors is worth considering. Priority for Action 1 around Governance, Local Level Implementation and Multi-stakeholder Participation could also be a strong focus for a post-2015 framework. Gender perspectives in disaster risk reduction could also be better addressed in a post-2015 framework.
38. A set of underlying values and principles is another potential springboard for the development of an international agreement. Principles and values for disaster risk reduction will contribute to meaningful cooperation for achieving sustainable development.
39. As in other international cross-cutting fields, the development of more standards could help support the implementation of high-quality practice, especially in a field as complex as disaster risk reduction. Specific areas within disaster risk reduction would need to be identified to prioritize those most in need of high-quality and urgent attention.
40. Whatever form a post-2015 framework takes it should offer the opportunity to scale-up disaster risk reduction efforts that can be measured against development outcomes. It should emphasize greater outreach at local and community levels and reflect on the substantive issues, especially the economic case for greater investment in disaster risk management. Finally, discussions that define a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction need to be broad, consultative and inclusive of all stakeholders.

## **D. PROCESS TOWARDS A POST-2015 FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

41. The facilitation of the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction is conducted on the basis of a request from the General Assembly; multiple resolutions providing guidance on disaster risk reduction; findings collected through the Mid-Term Review process; successive country-level reporting cycles through the HFA Monitor; the analysis of the Global Assessment Reports; deliberations at the Global Platforms as well as outcomes of regional ministerial meetings, regional and thematic platforms.
42. Over the same period of time that a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction will be discussed, the international community will also have met at the Rio+20 Sustainable Development Conference in June 2012, as well as set the path towards the post-2015 development agenda, the target date for the Millennium Development Goals. Reducing disaster risk will need to be taken in full consideration in these agendas as well as other main events to discuss a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (see Timeline).
43. Considering the range of stakeholders and the cross-cutting nature of disaster risk reduction, it is critical to engage all relevant parties throughout the process. This will also be ensured through a dedicated inter-active platform on [www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org), wide use of internet-based consultations and an open dialogue with all stakeholder groups, including governments and local authorities; international, regional organizations and thematic platforms; the private sector; science and technical based institutions; NGOs, civil society and community-based organizations.

### **Timeframe**

44. The consultative process will need to produce a draft for endorsement at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015. There are two phases. The first will be the consultations focusing on the general substantive issues up to and including the Fourth Session of the Global Platform in May 2013. This is the phase where emerging trends, challenges and solutions can expect to be debated, where the connection between other important areas, such as climate change adaptation, sustainable development and poverty eradication, environment and preparedness can be explored. An outline or an initial submission from the first phase of consultations is expected at the Global Platform in 2013.
45. The second phase will move from the discussions held at the Global Platform and will lead up to the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015. The second phase will focus on determining key priorities and what form the post-2015 framework on disaster risk reduction should take. The post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction consultations and draft is to be completed towards the end of 2014 in advance of endorsement at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015 in Japan. The post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction will also seek endorsement at the UN General Assembly in 2015.

## Advisory group

46. Following the completion of the Mid-Term-Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: *Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA)* the Chair's Summary of the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction welcomed the continued work of an Advisory Group to support the follow-up to the Global Platform and contribute to the formulation of a post-2015 framework.
47. The objective of the Advisory Group is to give guidance on substantive and process related matters to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction around the post-2015 framework. The Advisory Group is not a drafting committee but will provide technical input and contribute to outreach, and follow-up to the work processes. Members of the Advisory Group are invited by the SRSG.

## Consultations

48. All disaster risk reduction stakeholders are expected to contribute and participate in the discussions and preparatory work leading to a final draft of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. A timeline of main events and meetings is attached. UNISDR will coordinate the overall HFA related process through its headquarters in Geneva and regional offices and will assist in garnering input from other stakeholder processes.
49. A set of broad strategic questions, with relevant sub-questions, will be formulated in consultation with stakeholders, with a view to stimulating focused discussions around the substantive areas of focus for a post-2015 disaster risk reduction framework. These questions will be addressed in the course of stakeholder meetings at regional and national level. In-depth and *ad hoc* analytical studies will be commissioned or coordinated by UNISDR and partners to inform the process as it evolves. On-line consultations will also be organized to ensure the broadest outreach possible of all stakeholders involved. A calendar of consultation meetings will be made available on the UNISDR dedicated website on the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction by March 2012.

## The first phase (March 2012 to May 2013)

50. a) Outcomes of workshops at regional and sub-regional levels with various stakeholder groups: A series of regional consultations will be facilitated by UNISDR, through its regional offices, to focus on the substantive questions that ought to be featured in a post-2015 framework. Other consultations with specific stakeholders' groups to explore their views on a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. These include, but are not limited to: countries; local governments and administrations; civil society; the scientific community; the private sector; UN and regional organizations.  
Action: UNISDR secretariat, UNISDR Regional Offices, Regional and National Platforms  
When: March 2012 through February 2013

b) In-depth studies: Topics for specific thematic studies, of a limited number, will be identified in the first quarter of 2012. Independent consultants, member states, as well as national research and academic institutions will be invited to undertake these studies with an aim to obtain a more analytical and in-depth view on specific issues for the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. Attention will be given to studies that help identify solutions, support a strategic shift in disaster risk reduction from the "what" to the "how".  
Action by: UNISDR secretariat, independent consultants, stakeholders, research institutes. When: March 2012 - February 2013

c) On-line debates: To ensure that specific topics, as emerge from regional and stakeholder consultations, can be fully explored and debated, UNISDR will organize on-line consultations moderated by senior experts to reach as wide an audience as possible. Depending on availability of resources and stakeholder interest, UNISDR plans to organize debates until May 2013 and additional debates prior to the World Conference.

*Action by: UNISDR secretariat upon suggestions from stakeholders on topics for debate. When: May 2012 through October 2014*

### **The second phase (from May 2013 Global Platform to the 2015 World Conference)**

51. a) Analysis of Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: UNISDR will produce an analysis of progress achieved by member states and stakeholders in implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action. This analysis will be based on reports submitted by countries through the HFA Monitor, various editions of the Global Assessment Report, and the inputs from the first phase of consultations.

*Action by: UNISDR secretariat in consultation with stakeholders. When: 2014*

b) Meetings at regional level: Consultations will be held at regional level, through Regional Platforms and Ministerial meetings, to consider drafts of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. At this stage, regional consultations may also be used to identify, and agree on, achievement to be featured in the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

c) On-line debates and submissions: UNISDR will continue to host, through its dedicated on-line space, live discussions on emerging issues related to the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. UNISDR will also call for submissions based on the background papers and initial drafts.

*Action by: UNISDR secretariat and stakeholders. When: June 2013 – 2014*

March 2012



United Nations  
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

# Timeline of Main Events for Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

Version: 16 February 2012

