

Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management (RCC)

Overview of RCC as a Regional mechanism for DRR/HFA Implementation and Monitoring



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ADPC Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management (RCC)

Membership: 32 Heads of NDMOs from 26 Asian Countries

- **Southeast Asia** - Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam
- **South Asia** - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
- **East Asia** - China, Korea, Mongolia
- **Central and West Asia** - Georgia, Kazakhstan, Iran, Jordan
- **Pacific** - PNG, Timor Leste



H.E. Prof. Dr. I. Ahmed
President of Bangladesh
at the 4th RCC Meeting

Roles

- Identification of disaster-related needs and priorities of Asia-Pacific countries
- Promotion of regional and sub-regional co-operative programs
- Development of regional action strategies for disaster reduction



The 4th RCC Meeting, Dhaka, March 2004

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ADPC Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management (RCC)

- **RCC 1** : Nov 2000, Bangkok, Thailand
- **RCC 2** : Oct - Nov 2001, Bangkok, Thailand
- **RCC 3** : Oct 2002, New Delhi , Co-hosted by the **Government of India, Inaugurated by H.E. L.K. Advani, Deputy Prime Minister of India,**
- **RCC 4** : March 2004, Dhaka,20 Co-hosted by the **Government of Bangladesh, Inaugurated by H.E. Prof Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed, President of Bangladesh**
- **RCC 5** : May 2005, Co-hosted by the **Government of Vietnam, Inaugurated by H.E. Vi Khoan, Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam**
- **RCC 6** : Nov, 2006, **Kunming**, China, Co-hosted by the **Government of China, Inaugurated by H.E. Li Ligu, First Vice Minister of Ministry of Civil Affairs, P.R.China**



Bangkok RCC 2 Declaration on “Future Directions of Regional Cooperation and RCC”, 2001

- Useful and beneficial **platform** for dialogue, exchange of experience and lessons learned
- An important mean of **conceptualizing and developing practical cooperative programs** between member countries at the regional and sub regional level
- **Membership from senior officials** of member countries, national disaster coordinating bodies,
- Invite officials from **Ministries of Finance, Planning** and Foreign affairs and key sectoral ministries
- Encourage **participation of observers** from multilateral and bilateral agencies, donors, relevant UN agencies and intergovernmental organizations
- **ADPC to serve as a facilitator and convener** of this mechanism as well as the regional focal point and technical resource for RCC
- **Annual meetings** be organized in different countries preferably with a thematic focus and opportunity to see the host country DM system

Bangkok RCC 2 Declaration

Bangkok RCC 2 Declaration of 2001 on “Future Directions for Regional Cooperation and RCC”

Twenty three delegates from 16 RCC member countries and 12 observers from multi-lateral and bilateral agencies met in Bangkok for the 2nd Meeting of the RCC. The meeting endorsed the key further directions for the Regional Cooperation in Disaster Management and for the RCC as follows:

Comprehensive Risk Management Approach

Recognizing the increasing incidence and severity of natural, technological and man-made disaster risks in Asia and the Pacific, the meeting encouraged all RCC member countries to adopt a Comprehensive Risk Management Strategy (i.e. comprehensive multi hazard disaster risk management and reduction). This strategy should cover all hazards and all phases of disaster management including prevention, mitigation and preparedness in addition to response and recovery.

Key Action Areas

The meeting discussed the key action areas for the RCC to advance the Comprehensive Risk Management approach in the coming years in 4 broad categories:

- Building Community Level Programs for Preparedness and Mitigation
- Capacity Building of National Disaster Management Systems (See box for details)
- Cooperation with Sub-Regional Mechanisms such as ASEAN, SAARC, SOPAC, MRC and ICIMOD
- Regional initiatives to create awareness and promote political will (See box for details)

Role of RCC

The meeting concluded that the RCC is a very useful and beneficial platform for dialogue, exchange of experience and lessons learned. It also serves as an important means of conceptualizing and developing practical cooperative programs between member countries at the regional and sub-regional levels. The meeting recommends that the RCC mechanism should be institutionalized.

Prioritized Action Areas for RCC in the decade 2001 to 2010

(As prioritized during RCC 1 and RCC 2, for implementation by RCC Member countries and ADPC)

Priorities for Capacity Building for national systems

- Integrating disaster management into national planning
- Strengthening national disaster management committees/agencies
- Developing disaster management plans
- Exchanging experience on legal and institutional arrangements
- Creating awareness and political support
- Building national disaster management information systems
- Improving disaster management training and capacity building
- Promoting public awareness and media coverage of disaster risk reduction
- Enhancing scientific and technical cooperation in disaster management
- Mapping strengths and capacities of RCC member countries

Priorities for Regional initiatives

- Creating awareness, political will and support for disaster management and mitigation
- Organising an Asian regional multi-stakeholder conference on disaster reduction and support to national conferences
- Asian regional report on disaster reduction
- Vulnerability Atlas for Asia: development of risk maps and local level referencing for countries in the Asian region

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Prioritized Action Areas for RCC for 2001 to 2010

- **Creating Awareness & Political Support (RCC 1 & 2)**
- **Mainstreaming DRR into Development Policy, Planning & Implementation in Asia**
- **Capacity Building of National Disaster Management Systems (RCC 1 & 2)**
- **Public Awareness and Media (RCC 1, 2 & 4)**
- **Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) (RCC 2)**
- **Cooperation with Sub-Regional Agencies (RCC 1 & 2)**
- **Regional Initiatives (RCC 1 & 2)**
- **Flood Management and Mitigation (RCC 2 & 3)**
- **Drought Management and Mitigation (RCC 3)**
- **Urban Disaster Risk Management (RCC 4)**
- **Building Capacity for Management of Man-made Disasters (RCC 2)**
- **Support to implementation of the Hyogo Framework of Action and Monitoring Progress (RCC 5 & 6)**

2005 Hanoi Declaration on “Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management in Development (MDRD) and Enhancing Regional Cooperation”

- “Realizing that **DRR is not a stand-alone sector but an essential concern that operates at all levels and across all sectors; and that significant action is required to mainstream DRR in the process of development policy, planning and implementation**”
- “Recognizing the **role of National Platforms** to facilitate increased stakeholder participation to **serve as a base for mainstreaming of DRR**”
- “Recognizing the responsibility of **the RCC as a mechanism, offers to serve as a useful forum and reporting mechanism through which the progress of the implementation of the HFA can be monitored by ISDR**, and advocates that the 10-year HFA framework should be broken down into 2-year milestones of accomplishments to facilitate a workable implementation of the HFA for each of the RCC Member Countries”
- “**Requests ADPC in its capacity as secretariat of the RCC mechanism to continue to be the support agency of the RCC MDRD program**”



Special session on HFA implementation, RCC 5 Meeting May 2005, Hanoi, Vietnam

- **Special consultative session for the Asian Region on the Implementation of Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA), Co-organized with UN ISDR and UNDP on 20th May 2005, Hanoi, Vietnam**
- **The Session**
 - Introduced **HFA**
 - Concept of **National Platforms**
 - **Good examples of the implementation of the HFA by National Government of the RCC Member countries**
- **Discussion on**
 - **A preliminary review of initiatives to implement HFA in RCC Member countries**
 - **A preliminary survey of existing National Platforms or initiatives to establish National Platforms in RCC Member countries**
 - **RCC Member countries expectations of UN-ISDR , the IATF, the UN Agencies, ADPC, the UN ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) and the donor community**

RCC Expectations for the support of the Implementation of the HFA and the National Platforms from the UN-ISDR, the IATF, the UN Agencies, ADPC, the UN-ISDR IAP and the donor community

- To play a greater role beyond supporting and monitoring
- To provide guidance on program in key areas such as mainstreaming DRR in development
- To encourage the implementation of the HFA within a regional context with regional HFA projects/activities/programs

RCC Expectations for the support of the Implementation of the HFA and the National Platforms from the UN-ISDR, the IATF, the UN Agencies, ADPC, the UN-ISDR IAP and the donor community

- **To conduct Capacity Building programs for HFA implementation**
- **That the ISDR-ASIA PARTERSHIP role as catalyst be improved**
- **UN OCHA/UNDP/ISDR consider HFA implementation as one of the many forms of regional cooperation action through working closely with all of the partners of the UN ISDR IAP**
- **Assistance be provided to enhance the exchange of information, communication systems and capacity of communication and technology transfer including funding and resource mobilizations for all these activities.**

RCC Expectations for the support of the Implementation of the HFA and the National Platforms from the UN-ISDR, the IATF, the UN Agencies, ADPC, the UN-ISDR IAP and the donor community

- All actors urged to meet and discuss the ways they can provide comprehensive support to the HFA Implementation
- UN-ISDR requested to assist in capacity building, to provide guidelines on the implementation of HFA
- IATF called upon to assist in capacity building in the area of response and to provide technical assistance

Special session on HFA implementation

RCC 6 Meeting, Nov, 2006, Kunming, China

- **Special Session on “Progress on Implementation of Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) Co-organized by ADPC and UN/ISDR**
- **The Session** discussed
 - Role of **RCC in context of proposed Regional Platform**
 - Establishment of **National Platforms in Asian countries**
 - **Good examples of the implementation of the HFA by National Government** of the RCC Member countries

Recommendations at RCC 6 Meeting on Role of RCC in Implementation of HFA

- RCC could play a vital role in terms of periodic **monitoring and evaluation in the implementation of HFA**
- Provide **greater assistance in information sharing** by maintaining regional websites, newsletters, consolidating progress of individual countries and capturing progress in specific sectors
- RCC as a regional mechanism could play an important role **in consolidating the HFA themes and reporting back the progress made** in the countries and specific sectors to the Global Platform

ADPC commitments to support HFA Implementation as made at the 11th IATF in May 2005

- 1 Support to countries of the region in planning and implementation of HFA**
- 2 Support to establishment of National Platforms for Disaster Reduction in interested countries**
- 3 RCC program on Mainstreaming of DRR into Development**
- 4 Joining with other regional agencies and regional offices of UN Agencies to develop a system of structured cooperation and technical assistance to countries of the region**

Review of RCC Mechanism

- Established itself as a meaningful neutral platform among DM focal points of Asian Governments for discussion, exchange of experiences, identification of new thrust areas and learning from others
- Has helped identify new initiatives to be taken up at national level
- Catalyzed action in existing sub-regional mechanisms
- Provided opportunity for UN agencies, donors and technical institutions to understand perspectives, constraints, challenges and priorities of national government
- Increased ownership by national government and opportunity for political leaders to demonstrate support and political commitment
- Enhanced visibility for Disaster Reduction in country
- Slow but steady progress on taking up implementation on regional scale projects arising from wide-ranging agenda coupled with constraints of resources
- RCC is an existing “Regional Platform” as conceived in HFA and its annual meetings provide an opportunity for catalyzing and monitoring HFA implementation



Thank You



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