



## Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Second Session, Geneva, Switzerland  
16 – 19 June 2009



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**“Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow”**

## SUBSTANTIVE EVENTS AT GP09

### Provisional Calendar

#### **Tuesday 16th June**

13:00-15:00 Lunch with Governments  
14:00-15:00 BBC World Debate

#### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June**

14:30-15:00 Presentation of the World Disaster Report “Early Warning Early Action” by IFRC  
18:30-20:00 Film Festival

#### **Thursday 18 June**

13:00-14:00 Presentation Ceremony of the United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction

#### **Running through the four-day session:**

- Disaster Risk Reduction Market Place
- Special Events

## SECOND SESSION OF THE GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**16-19 June 2009**  
**International Conference Centre (CICG), Geneva**

### *Calendar of events*

#### **Tuesday 16th June**

##### **13:00-15:00 Lunch with Governments**

An invitation lunch will be organized for Governments featuring a keynote speaker and discussion on how to make disaster risk reduction an effective tool for sustainable development. The lunch will be hosted by USG Holmes.

##### **14:00-15:00 BBC World Debate**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) will offer many opportunities for promoting key disaster risk reduction themes and messages as well as providing UNISDR partners with opportunities for conveying major policy and operational initiatives to world media and related decision influencers. As the catalyst to a week of important DRR announcements, launches and interventions, UNISDR is working with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) to stage a one-hour pre-recorded World Debate on Disaster Risk Reduction, which will be aired in English at various times across the globe over the weekend of 20/21 June 2009. The BBC World Debate is a brand that is broadcast solely on BBC World Service. The debate will reach an audience of up to 80 million people worldwide. It will comprise four or five panelists/speakers, selected by the BBC who will offer diverse viewpoints, positions and priorities from across the DRR spectrum. A senior BBC World presenter will anchor the event, calling for brief initial comments from the panels, intended to spark some lively dialogue from the audience that will form the bulk of the programme to be broadcast. The main theme and title of the Debate are being finalized between UNISDR and the BBC but will focus on prevention versus reaction within the context of disaster risk reduction and climate change, and responses of the international community there-in. Once the live recording has taken place on 16 June 2009, the broadcast version will be finalized to BBC standards. The broadcast will be aired through the BBC World service on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 7 am, 10 am, 1 pm, 5 pm, 1 am European Time. The BBC will make a recording of the programme available to Global Platform participants via the web and have a couple of trailers produced and broadcast a week before the event on BBC World.

#### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June**

##### **14:30-15:00 Presentation of the World Disaster Report “Early Warning early Action” by IFRC**

The IFRC will take the opportunity of the Second Session of the Global Platform to present their annual World Disaster Report on “Early Warning Early Action”. The event will serve as a valuable



introduction to the High level Panel on “Enabling Community-Led Resilience Through Preventive Action” that will focus on the role of early warning and related policy strategies in saving local communities who are at the frontline

### **18:30-20:00 Film Festival**

For the first time a Film Festival will be organized in cooperation with key UN system partners (in particular IFRC). The main purpose of this event is to promote effective communication of disaster risk reduction and climate change issues by bringing together those who film disaster stories with those who live and know the stories. A provisional title (to be confirmed) is ‘Film it like it is’: the role of the film-maker in portraying climate change adaptation. All attendees at the Global Platform are invited to attend the Festival.

Panellists for the debate will include one or two producers involved in the production of the film “The Age of Stupid” or “No Strings” puppet videos for children, a journalist (if possible BBC, CNN or a representative of the Panos Relay Programme), a representative from a UN agency or the International Federation (proposal: Trygve Nordby). A representative from an environmental NGO such as Greenpeace or WWF may also be invited to share their experience in advocating for climate change mitigation and explore linkages with adaptation. The discussion will focus on the type of messages that are now conveyed on DRR/CC by the media and the film industry, how this is communicated, how this SHOULD be communicated, and what should be done to raise the interest of journalists, producers, and the wider public in the topic.

A door prize will be given out. The prize is a video of Al Gore’s “An Inconvenient Truth” signed by Al Gore.

## **Thursday 18 June**

### **14:00-15:00 Presentation Ceremony of the United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction**

The United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction is one of the three prestigious awards established in 1986 by founding Chairman of the Nippon Foundation, Mr. Ryoichi Sasakawa. The Award is managed by the UNISDR secretariat and presented to individuals or institutions that have been selected by an independent jury for their outstanding contributions to disaster prevention and vulnerability reduction worldwide. For the past years, it has been presented on an annual basis. In order to increase the effectiveness of this event as a global advocacy tool, the jury decided in their 2008 annual meeting to hold it biennially during the Global Platform. The 2009 Global Platform will therefore be the first time the UN Sasakawa Award is handed over during such a major disaster risk reduction related forum. It is expected that USG Holmes, as the Chair of the UNISDR system, will be available to hand over the Award to the 2009 Laureate.

## **Regular events organized throughout the four-day session**

### **Disaster Risk Reduction Market Place**

The Disaster Risk Reduction Market Place will be open in the afternoons during the lunch break, from 13:00-18:00 from Tuesday through Thursday, and from 9:00-13:00 on Friday. The purpose is to showcase major projects, innovative tools, instruments, services and networks that support the

implementation of the HFA. The marketplace area, which will be located inside the CICG entrance to the right, can hold a maximum of 30 display booths. Special efforts are being made to ensure a broad thematic and regional representation. Interested Governments and UNISDR system partners have been invited to submit requests to the relevant UNISDR Focal Point. Many requests have already been received.

### **Special Events**

Opportunities are offered to all UNISDR system partners to organize specific discussions related to any of the Global Platform themes each day of the Session over the lunch break (13:00-15:00). A significant amount of requests has already been received, which are being clustered around the following themes to ensure the accommodation of most - if not all - of them: 1) Climate change adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction, 2) Financing Disaster Risk Reduction, 3) Community, local authorities and civil society's actions in support of HFA implementation, 4) Space technology applications to Disaster Risk Reduction and Early Warning system, as well as other subjects including Education, Flood Management, urban risk reduction, safe hospitals and others. Partnership-building and joint organization will be important selection criteria. Special efforts are being made to ensure that the conclusions and recommendations issued from Special Event sessions are reflected in the Chair's Summary. Guidelines have been developed to assist interested partners to submit an official request, which are available on Prevention Web.