

Compilation of National Progress Reports on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action:

HFA Priority 2, core indicator 2.4:

National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.

Know the Risks and Take Action

Reporting period: 2007-2009

This document has been compiled from the national progress reports provided by 76 countries through the HFA Monitor.

Note that these extracts are provided for convenience only.
National HFA progress reports should be considered in their entirety and can be found at:

<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/framework/progress/>

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Africa

Algeria (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Le domaine où, véritablement, l'évaluation des risques aux niveaux national et local prend en compte les risques trans-nationaux dans le but d'établir une coopération régionale pour la réduction du risque, est celui des invasions acridiennes ; en effet, dans ce cas, non seulement la coopération a été institutionnalisée entre les pays sahéliens concernés (Pays du Maghreb, Sénégal, Mali, Niger et Tchad) pour l'alerte et la lutte contre la manifestation des locustes, mais une carte d'indice de végétation a été établie pour les zones potentielles de reproduction acridienne (Sud algérien et Nord du Niger et du Mali). Par ailleurs, il y'a lieu de signaler des coopérations pour l'alerte et l'évaluation des risques transnationaux dans les domaines suivants :

- Feux de forêts (coopération algero-tunisienne au niveau de la bande frontalière).
- Alea sismique et tsunami (coopération a l'échelle euro-mediterraneeeenne)
- Météo (coopération régionale)
- Pollution marine par les hydrocarbures

Context & Constraints:

Les défis à relever résident dans la généralisation de cette coopération aux autres types de risques où cela est possible et souhaitable. La ratification des statuts et le démarrage du futur « Centre arabe des risques sismiques et des autres catastrophes naturelles » (créé par la Ligue Arabe) dont le siège sera à Alger pourra certainement y contribuer de par les opportunités techniques qu'il offrira

Angola (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

Existem algumas iniciativas transfronteiriças no sul de Angola e norte da Namíbia no sentido de se fazer um estudo conjunto que leve a criação de mecanismos para diminuição do risco. Este mecanismo inclui o aproveitamento conjunto da Bacia do Rio Cunene, com o fim da gestão dos recursos hídricos.

Context & Constraints:

O nível de coordenação a nível da SADC continua a ser deficiente, no que toca ao comité técnico para a gestão de desastres na região.

Burkina Faso (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Au Burkina Faso, les efforts sont prioritairement mis sur le niveau national.

Cependant, des stratégies trans-nationales existent notamment dans les secteurs de la Santé humaine et animale, des Ressources en eau et de l'Agriculture (lutte anti acridienne...).

Des stratégies sous-régionales sont développées à travers des organisations sous régionales comme la

Communauté Economique des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO), le Comité Inter Etat de Lutte contre la Sécheresse au Sahel (CILSS) et l'Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest Africaine (UEMOA).

Context & Constraints:

La mise en oeuvre actuelle des stratégies trans-nationales et sous régionales (CEDEAO, CILSS) n'est pas assez développée.

Burundi (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

1 - Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

Description:

Des initiatives sont en cours pour établir une coopération régionale sur la RRC à travers le Centre d'Excellence régionale (Golden Spear).

Context & Constraints:

Les exigences liées à la mise en place effective de cette coopération : contributions financières des Etats membres.

Cote d'Ivoire (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Compte tenu du caractère régional de certains risques, l'Etat prend un certain nombre de précaution pour réduire les risques ; on peut relever les cas d'épidémie (méningite), d'épizootie (grippe aviaire), et de maladies de certaines cultures de rente tels que le cacao. A ce niveau, une coopération régionale existe à travers des ateliers régionaux pour trouver les solutions.

Context & Constraints:

A ce niveau aussi, le manque de bases de données suffisamment renseignées ne permet pas toujours d'atteindre les résultats escomptés. Le défi à relever reste encore la mise en place d'une base nationale de données environnementales.

Egypt (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

National risk assessments take account of regional/trans-boundary risks, particularly of major natural and environmental risks.

Cooperation at regional and international levels has been initiated to assess and monitor regional and trans-boundary risks. However, the exchange of information and providing early warnings through appropriate arrangements are to be developed. This would imply having standard and accessible information and data on regional disaster risks, impacts and losses.

Egypt is a cornerstone for regional cooperation, considering its geographical location.

Cooperation with Arab Countries:

Egypt has actively participated in the process of developing a Draft Protocol on Arab Cooperation for Prompt Responses in Cases of Natural Disasters, Crisis and Emergency, under the umbrella of the Arab League. Besides, there are bilateral cooperation between Egypt and other Arab countries for cooperation in

cases of disasters and crisis. Egypt cooperates with the Arab States overlooking the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region through its participation in the Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Combating Pollution by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency (1982).

Mediterranean Region:

Egypt cooperates with the Mediterranean countries through the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), since it participated in the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency (1976).

Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation:

Egypt is participating in the Euro-Med initiative "Supports the Development of a Euro-Mediterranean System of Mitigation, Prevention and Management of Natural and Man-made Disasters, through technical assistance and capacity building".

Context & Constraints:

Although the cooperation for trans-boundary issues at regional bases is developed, vitalization of this cooperation is highly required. Cooperation in issues related to Marine Environmental Disasters has been materialized in the region through the establishment of the "Mutual Aid Centers". Similar approaches are to be regarded for major disasters. Exchange of information and providing early warnings through appropriate arrangements are to be developed. This would imply having standard and accessible information and data on regional disaster risks, impacts and losses.

Ghana (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Ghana is a member of the African Union (AU) and the sub-regional grouping, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and abides by the AU and ECOWAS conventions on disaster risk reduction, especially in the area of trans-boundary collaboration.

Ghana shares information with neighbouring countries such as Burkina faso on hazards such as Cerebro spinal meningitis, Anthrax and flooding. Specifically Ghana receive early warning from the operators of the Bagre Dam in Burkina faso befor spilling. Ghana also exchanges information of Pests and Insects hazards such as African Swine Fever, Locust Invassion, Avian Influenza with Togo and Cote d'Ivoire.

Context & Constraints:

Elaborate policy agreements do not exist between Ghana and the neighbouring countries. Language is a serious problem for collaboration in view of the fact that Ghana, an anglophone country is surrounded by francophone countries. Besides, information for early warning are routed through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and thus delays time and early warning. There are no common facilities or equipment for the exchange of weather warnings, locust invitations, etc.

Kenya (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Risks include; competing for pastures and grazing land.

Context & Constraints:

Lack of adequate rainfall and the locals way of life of keeping large herds of cattle.

Madagascar (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

L'entrée de Madagascar dans la SADC a en partie accéléré ce processus. Des démarches de partenariat et de mise en cohérence des mécanismes d'évaluations des risques sont en cours. Quoiqu'il en soit, le système mis en place par Madagascar est une bonne base pour répondre aux exigences de cette prise en compte au niveau régional et transrégional.

Context & Constraints:

Le gouvernement malagasy favorise la capitalisation des acquis plus que la mise en œuvre de nouvelles structures parallèles.

Mais l'insuffisance de ressources et de capacités influence énormément les réalisations, étant donné que le BNGRC est sollicité par beaucoup de partenaires en GRC.

Malawi (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

1 - Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

Description:

Since national and local risk assessments are yet to be undertaken, transboundary issues have not been taken into account. However, when the assessments will be undertaken, transboundary issues would have to be addressed since some disasters affect both Malawi and its neighbouring countries such as Mozambique and Tanzania. An example is the flooding of Songwe river in Karonga which affects areas in both Malawi and Tanzania.

Context & Constraints:

Lack of resources to undertake national and local risk assessments

Mauritius (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Mauritius is a member of the RA I Tropical Cyclone Committee. The RSMC is Meteo France, Reunion and Mauritius is the sub-regional centre. The Tropical Cyclone Committee meets every year around the month of October and there is good cooperation among member countries in sharing data.

There is also good working link with other WMO member countries, the PTWC and the JMA on tsunami warnings, USGS on earthquake warning.

Context & Constraints:

No significant constraints have been identified.

Mozambique (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

There Mozambican national and local risk assessment takes account of the regional/trans- boundary risks but this cooperation is weak because of absence of trans-boundary agreements: One good example on trans-boundary risk assessment are the joint studies undertaken by the governments of the Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of South Africa and the Kingdom of Swaziland collaborating in the exchange of information, through the Tripartite Permanent Technical Committee (TPTC), which was formally established on 17 February 1983. The TPTC is responsible for providing advice to the shared watercourse. It states on equitable utilization and management of the shared waters. It was identified in the Interim IncoMaputo Agreement (IIMA), (August 2002) that a "Comprehensive Agreement" is required in order for the watercourse states to participate more effectively in the utilization, development and protection of the shared waters of the Maputo River Basin. The IIMA provided a timeframe for the development of a Comprehensive Agreement for the equitable utilization and management of the shared waters of the Maputo River. The Comprehensive Agreement was envisaged to be in place by 2010. Another initiative is SADC SARAP (SADC SUB-REGIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME) that is a relevant program dealing with desertification and land degradation control. The Pungue Joint Study undertaken by Zimbabwe and Mozambique on Pungue River Basin in 2005, for integrated water resources management was a good starting point but no progress is sustained so far.

The Southern African Water Vision adopted in March 2000, which promotes "equitable and sustainable utilization of water for social and environmental justice, regional integration and economic benefit for present and future generations", sees water as a driving force to a better future for the peoples of Southern Africa. The Revised SADC Protocol on Shared Watercourse Systems whose overall objective is "to foster closer cooperation for judicious, sustainable and coordinated management, protection and utilization of shared watercourses and advance the SADC agenda of regional integration and poverty alleviation is a progress.

Context & Constraints:

There is a lack of agreements among all countries regarding to integrated water resource management. Some countries did not ratify the SADC new act on non navigation.

Most of the water resource management decisions such as emergency/disaster management measures in the SADC region are still under endless discussions.

Senegal (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

Des mécanismes régionaux de RRC existent dans le cadre de la CEDEAO et de l'Union Africaine. Cependant, les relations avec ces organisations sont encore très timides.

Context & Constraints:

Les démarches déjà menées dans le cadre de la coopération Sud-Sud doivent être poursuivies. La collaboration entre pays transfrontaliers sera encouragée avec l'appui de structures comme l'UNISDR, OCHA, PAM et FICR qui ont une expérience avérée dans le domaine de l'aide humanitaire et de la gestion des risques de catastrophe entre pays voisins.

Sierra Leone (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

The level is 4. National policies have been developed, in collaboration with key partners. Because many of these partners have contributed to the process of developing such policies, ownership and a clear knowledge of institutional /departmental etc roles and responsibilities during disasters has been made possible. Sub-regional meetings are also held on a regular basis to develop sub-regional hazard/vulnerability/risk assessments with sub-regional response plans. These resources, both human and material are designed in such a way that they could be requested for at very short notice by any member country as and when the need arises. For localised disasters/risks that have the propensity to become sub-regional, meetings have also been done at various levels to map out contingency plans to address this. One challenge encountered here though is that not all of Sierra Leone's immediate neighbours have conducted national hazard/risk/vulnerability profiles. Thus writing out contingency plans hasn't always been reflective of the real issues facing those countries. An example could be cited of recent flooding that swept across from Sierra Leone to Liberia. is flooding in a border town near any of the neighbouring countries. Thus, Sierra Leone is part of the Mano-River and the ECOWAS (sub-regional and regional bodies) that have strong cooperation in terms of risk assessments and reduction activities. Contingencies plans are in place to cover inter-regional disasters and funds and stockpiles are readily available to support those plans.

Context & Constraints:

The country's meteorological systems were virtually destroyed during the civil war, leaving a very weak early warning system in place, especially with respect to natural disasters. In addition, there have been no dedicated emergency response funds set aside for use by implementing Government partners such as ministries/departments/agencies. This causes a real challenge in ensuring effective and timely response during emergency periods. In some instances authorities tend to turn a blind eye to certain malpractices forgetting what dire consequences might result in such action. The enforcement of laws governing environmental protection and other policies, which, if not implemented cannot only result in national emergencies but are also inclined to cause trans-national crises. Another problem could be that of accessing funds. Authorities find it difficult to see the benefit of investing in DRR because these are the disasters that did not happen. Sharing the experiences of other countries, which have taken a similar path, could help. The need for some intervention to put in place early warning systems and for emergency funds to be set aside or use when the need arises cannot be overemphasized. Finally, the need to commit funds to support the regular update/review hazard/risk/vulnerability assessments is almost always a challenge , especially in a situation of limited resources competing demands

Swaziland (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

1 - Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

Description:

We have not yet started to carry our risk assessemnts

Context & Constraints:

Capacity constraints

Tanzania, United Rep of (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Tanzania shares land boundaries with other countries. Hazards and risks assessment reports mainly based on national and local exercises only. Government, regional and local agencies consider cross - jurisdictional boundary issues in their disaster risk management and emergency planning (ref. National avian influenza strategic plan & simulation on Avian Influenza in July 2008) Tanzania cooperates inter - regionally and globally within international fora that undertake risk assessments and set policy and best practice standards, to manage regional and global hazards and risks.

For example, working with CDC under sponsorship of USAID with Schools of Public Health in East and Central Africa. Developing curriculum and training students and workers in field of public health on disaster preparedness and response as well as facilitating districts to prepare disaster response plan.

Virtually no part of the world is immune to disasters. Their nature, characteristics and consequences transcend beyond national boundaries. Since countries have limited capacity to deal with disasters, sustainable solutions could be cost effective if tackled internationally through regional collaboration frameworks. Tanzania is a member of East African Community (EAC), South Africa Community (SADC), African Union (AU) and United Nations (UN). In each of these bodies there is a strong emphasis for member states to put in place workable arrangements for disaster risk management. The United republic of Tanzania take part in different foras majoring in disaster management with workable arrangement activities.

Context & Constraints:

The challenge faced with these regional collaborative bodies is the funding and marginalization of disaster risk management activities. The government to ratify and implement the international conventions on disaster reduction and other conventions of relevance to address transboundary disaster problems. Sensitization, lobbying and advocacy for policy makers to assure budget for transboundary disaster risk reduction

Togo (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

aucune action dans ce sens

Context & Constraints:

contraintes financières

Zambia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Risks include transboundary diseases for both human and livestock.

Context & Constraints:

The country has had people coming in from other countries fleeing conflict and other vices from their own country and coming with contagious diseases. The country faces the risk of out-breaks of diseases like cholera, avian influenza and various types of plague from its neighbours.

Animal diseases such as Contagious Bovine Pleural Pneumonia (CBPP) mainly come in from North Western border of the country and have been difficult to contain. There are plans to embark on vaccination exercises that involve neighbouring governments doing their own vaccination of these trans-boundary diseases at the same time. Protocols are however yet to be signed.

Americas

Anguilla (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

Relationships need to be formed via the tri partide with Dutch Sint Maarten and Saint Martin. Progress is starting on this via an EU funded initiative put together by the OCTs

Context & Constraints:

Travel budgets and need for commitment of resources from other agencies.

Argentina (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

Algunas instituciones (Casco Blanco, Sísmicos, Actividades Espaciales, etc.) suelen trabajar con referentes regionales y en tal punto comparten experiencias o realizan capacitaciones tanto a nivel de los países del Mercosur como de Latinoamérica en general, pero son en rigor de las pocas instituciones locales que lo logran.

En estos casos, se han consolidado Redes Regionales a nivel LAC, pero se ha debido a políticas de dichos organismos.

El caso del volcán Chaitén (de Chile) que produjo daños sobre el lado argentino de la cordillera de los Andes, incentivó este tipo de intercambios a otras áreas dedicadas al tema.

La posibilidad de intercambiar experiencias con otras Plataformas Nacionales a nivel regional, seguramente mejorará este aspecto.

Context & Constraints:

Adquirir conciencia sobre que muchos riesgos de desastres pueden activarse más allá de las fronteras (como fue lo del Chaitén) es el reto sobre el que pivotar.

Bolivia (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

Instituciones gubernamentales están trabajando en algunas cuencas transnacionales tal el caso de la cuenca alta del Río Paraguay, cuenca del Río Pilcomayo (proyecto concluido) y cuenca del Río Bermejo. Se puede mencionar también en el altiplano, la institución binacional ALT que trabaja en la cuenca del Lago Titicaca, Río Desaguadero y Salar de Coipasa. Además existen instituciones no gubernamentales que están llevando a cabo proyectos al respecto como CARE en la cuenca del Río Tahuamanu.

Son acciones aisladas que no tienen repercusión a nivel nacional, ni en los planes ni políticas.

Existen acuerdos transfronterizos: Brasil, Paraguay y Bolivia y frontera Bolivia, Chile y Perú

Context & Constraints:

Cuando los proyectos impulsados por organizaciones no gubernamentales llegan a su conclusión, no existe continuidad por parte del Estado o las instituciones involucradas a nivel nacional, principalmente por el factor económico

British Virgin Islands (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

The VI (UK) CDM Strategy was also developed to be aligned with the CDM Regional Framework and the Hyogo Framework for Action. There is growing consensus among development partners and financial institutions on the need to harmonize and coordinate DRM programming in the Caribbean, and stakeholders have agreed to use the CDM framework as a key tool in this harmonization and coordination process. The CDM Framework effectively acts as the harmonization tool for a regional 'Programme Based Approach' (PBA) for DRM programming in the region. In this context, aligning the VI (UK) CDM Strategy to the Regional CDM Strategy has the dual benefit of being well coordinated with regional programming thrusts and being programmatically linked to critical aspects of the main window through which significant funding for CDM will emerge in the upcoming period. In this context, the VI (UK) CDM Programming Framework was developed to be a PBA for CDM in VI (UK).

Context & Constraints:

No constraints have been identified at this time.

Cayman Islands (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

The Cayman Islands are part of the regional seismic monitoring systems for hurricane and earthquakes and expect to part of the Caribbean Tsunami Warning System (TWS) when it becomes operational in 2010.

The Cayman Islands National Weather Service has an established relationship and good lines of communication with the National Hurricane Centre in Miami about hurricanes threatening or impacting the country.

The Cayman Islands are part of the Overseas Territories Network and as an associate member of CARICOM, we expect to join CDERA, (Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency).

The Cayman Islands has established a relationship with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre in Belize. The Centre is now putting together a draft strategic plan which will include adaptive measures for the Caribbean and give a clear understanding of the anticipated impacts on critical sectors.

The Cayman Islands uses a standardised format for damage assessment reports (The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean ECLAC).

A sophisticated weather and oceanographic monitoring station is being installed off the coast of Little Cayman. The installation is a joint project between the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration and the Central Caribbean Marine Institute. NOAA chose Little Cayman as one of four international locations for the station because its isolation and low population make it an ideal location to continually measure temperature, winds, barometric pressure and ultraviolet and photo-synthetically active radiation in a shallow coral reef environment. The data is expected to give the world a unique insight into how climate change is affecting coral reefs, as well as provide Cayman with better information on storm threats. The information should also provide insight about how changes in the ocean and atmosphere are affecting fish and coral populations and how longer term climate variability may be resulting in real changes in the coral reef structure and community. Once operational, the station will transmit data in real time to NOAA, which will make the information available to the public through its website. The Cayman Islands Department of Environment, which has assisted with the station's installation, also plans on making use of the data, as do other government agencies.

The proposed Cayman Islands Disaster Legislation follows the format commonly used in the English speaking Caribbean.

Hazard Management Cayman Islands will make its documentation available on its website.

Context & Constraints:

Cayman does not currently have the budget capacity or economies of scale to warrant the establishment of its own major scientific research establishments and universities. As a result, Cayman should continue to encourage and cultivate strategic partnerships with regional seismic networks, the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre in Belize and the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the University of the West Indies. Work should be done to ensure that the findings of such research are widely available to other countries in the region so a cooperative information sharing environment can be fostered.

Once the National programme is fully established and operational, the Cayman Islands will work to provide data and information to regional networks such as UWI Mona Campus, CDERA and PAHO etc.

Colombia (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Las evaluaciones de los riesgos nacionales y locales si toman en cuenta las evaluaciones de los riesgos regionales y transfronterizos para la reducción del riesgo mediante avances en amenazas climatológicas redes a nivel Internacional: niño/niña - ciclones, etc. Riesgos y evaluación de vulnerabilidad, Planes de Ordenamiento Territorial POT, cuencas binacionales, hay coordinación Internacional por ejemplo Rio Arauca con Venezuela, existen acuerdos entre los países y convenios firmados para el manejo. Nuestro Instituto Geográfico Agustín Codazzi IGAC, muestra también avances en Mapa de Riesgos Internacionales. Muchos adelantos se pueden mostrar en el marco del Comité de Huracanes del mar Caribe entre todos los países del Area. Algún intercambio operativo de alertas de ríos binacionales existe. Participación del país en redes sismológicas regionales como la del Caribe y Pacífico de Suramérica, para alerta temprana de Tsunami. INGEOMINAS comparte señales sísmicas en tiempo real con Ecuador, Panamá y Venezuela. Hay una gestión inter-institucional para compartir señales de vigilancia volcánica de los volcanes Chiles y Cerro Negro en el borde Colombia -Ecuador

Context & Constraints:

Compartir información de vigilancia y alertas bajo criterios estandarizados y convenidos ha sido una de las preocupaciones del País. Los convenios internacionales su aprobación, seguimiento y protocolos establecidos la mayoría de las veces facilitan la acción. Estos instrumentos logrados mediante acuerdos binacionales y de grupos económicos logran muy buenos resultados, casos específicos CAPRADE. Asociación de Estados del Caribe AEC, y otros arreglos regionales a los que pertenece el país y que

Costa Rica (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

“Las evaluaciones de los riesgos nacionales y locales toman en cuenta riesgos regionales y transfronterizos, con una perspectiva de cooperación regional para la reducción del riesgo”

Nivel alcanzado: 4

Costa Rica es miembro del "Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres Naturales en America Central" (CEPREDENAC). Mediante proyectos que lidera CEPREDENAC el país participa de proyectos destinados a aspectos como los siguientes: La generación de sistemas de información territorial sobre riesgos en toda la región, la elaboración de indicadores de vulnerabilidad, la vigilancia de eventos que tienen cobertura regional tales como los ciclones tropicales y los tsunamis. Existen además iniciativas binacionales con Panamá y con Nicaragua para el manejo de emergencias en zonas fronterizas, que involucran también el estudio y la vigilancia de las cuencas (Del Río Sixaola en la frontera con Panamá y del Río San Juan con Nicaragua). Suma a lo anterior la existencia de una serie de procedimientos y convenios para la asistencia humanitaria ante desastres, acordados entre los países de la región. El país cuenta además con un “Manual de Cancillería” que define el accionar del cuerpo diplomático ante necesidades del país en caso de un llamamiento de ayuda internacional. Funciona en el país el Comité Asesor Técnico de Ayuda Internacional, coordinado por la CNE, integrado por representantes de las instituciones afines al tema, que lidera la definición de los procedimientos y las medidas para orientar y agilizar los trámites de donación, compra, ingreso y salida de la cooperación internacional.

Context & Constraints:

Algunos de los proyectos regionales tienen una definición deficiente o son propuestas que repiten esfuerzos ya hechos, sin generación de productos concretos, en especial lo que se refieren a la generación de sistemas de información. En los proyectos transfronterizos aparecen algunas limitaciones institucionales y jurídicas, en especial para asignar recursos que deben ser ejecutados en zonas externas al territorio nacional.

Dominican Republic (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

1 - Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

Description:

Hay muchas limitantes para la cooperación con Haití por su situación política, de seguridad y la barrera del idioma.

Se han desarrollado algunos programas transfronterizo con organismos internacionales y algunos talleres de entrenamientos con instituciones locales

Context & Constraints:

El problema del idioma y las diferencias culturales son desafíos para la cooperación regional

Ecuador (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

AVANCE

POLITICA2. La gestión de riesgos deberá ser incorporada en los programas de educación y capacitación en todos los niveles

Context & Constraints:

Recomendación:

- Asignar Recursos para implementar el proyecto Ciudades Sostenibles en los municipios.
 - Diseminar la información.
 - Considerar perspectivas como el manejo integral de cuencas hidrográficas que van más allá de los límites políticos establecidos.
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El Salvador (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Ejemplos: Proyecto RECLAIMN, Intercambios de información Sísmica, Intercambio de información Volcánica, Foros climáticos regionales, (TODOS ESTOS SON ESFUERZOS INSTITUCIONALES), Proyecto en el golfo de Fonseca para trabajar Tsunamis (PTWC, BGR).

Existe un marco regional soportado por CEPREDENAC.

A nivel de Universidades también hay esfuerzos transfronterizos: SUCA. Esfuerzo inter-universitario: USAC, UNAN y UES.

Proyecto TRIFINIO marca un hito, en el sentido que es un esfuerzo que viene desde la presidencia hasta el nivel local.

Todos los ejemplos antes mencionados, hacen evaluaciones de amenaza. Nuevamente el tema de vulnerabilidad es muy poco estudiado por lo que la ecuación del riesgo queda debilitada.

Context & Constraints:

Todos los esfuerzos internacionales deberían elevarse a un nivel político, que garantice el seguimiento y la sostenibilidad de estos proyectos.

Todos los compromisos regionales sean difundidos a las diferentes instancias y se garantice su sostenibilidad.

Es importante incorporar el componente de la vulnerabilidad en la mayoría de estos esfuerzos.

Complementar esfuerzos y recursos (humanos y técnicos) entre organismos internacionales.

Jamaica (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Jamaica is one of sixteen participating states that form the Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) which was established by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) initiative. Regional cooperation has been achieved through CDERA initiatives such as the Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Strategy. Jamaica's function as a regional focal point for neighbouring states has also led to the sharing of data with a view to measuring transboundary risks especially for the Turks and

Caicos Islands, the Bahamas and Belize.

Regional Tsunami Warning system established with Jamaica as a signatory.

The country is also part of the UN System led regional focal grouping to expedite more effective emergency response for the northern section of the Caribbean. This had led to further information sharing and has led to greater regional cooperation in responding to emergencies.

The National Disaster Office has forged a relationship with the General Council of Martinique where mutual areas of good practice have been identified and strategies and approaches identified for the transfer of the skills and knowledge.

Context & Constraints:

Challenges

- Absence of Caribbean economic integration which would serve as a catalyst for greater work in Disaster Risk Reduction at the regional level.
- Lack of commitment by nation leaders to finalize issues such as the revamping of a uniform building code that can be made applicable across the Caribbean.
- Improvements in mechanisms to enable Caribbean countries to communicate speedily and share data effectively.

Recommendations

- Sharing best practices among the region and entering into the dialogue placing DRR on the agenda as a pre-cursor for integration.
 - Making CDERA more relevant and adaptable to the changes taking place in DRR internationally.
 - Improvement to the system and concepts of governance which is critical to mainstreaming DRR in the region.
-

Panama (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

En esta temática se está iniciando el trabajo de instaurar un marco de acción apropiado, dado que existen riesgos conjuntos que se están estudiando y en el cual nos estamos preparando en conjunto para el caso de respuesta. Ya que en años anteriores se han generado situaciones diplomáticas en las que no se realizó la coordinación previa inicial como se establece.

Ejemplo:

Actualmente existen estudios y trabajos conjuntos en cuencas bilaterales. Ejemplo: Panama- Costa Rica (a través de la cuenca del río Sixaola).

Adicional a esto Panamá cuenta con un Manual de Cancillería (Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores) para el Servicio Exterior que entre otras cosas indica los procesos de canalización de donaciones internacionales, en este momento el documento ya ha sido presentado a las instituciones para su validación, se espera su publicación en mayo del 2008.

Se elaboró la propuesta del documento para el proyecto de Microzonificación para la Ciudad de Panamá y Colón donde se han contemplado los objetivos, la contribución al desarrollo del área de ejecución, procedimiento de ejecución, enfoque de desarrollo, complementariedad y sinergias con la Política Española de Cooperación y con las políticas públicas locales y resumen del proyecto.

Un ejemplo del trabajo como región es el PREVDA: Programa Regional que tiene como objetivo mejorar la calidad de vida de las personas que viven en las cuencas hidrográficas y; reduciendo la vulnerabilidad a desastres naturales, mejorando y protegiendo el ambiente y en especial las fuentes de aguas. Este proyecto se está desarrollando en diferentes países centroamericanos y en el caso de Panamá es importante destacar que en la Cuenca de Pacora se proyecta a futuro un alto potencial para el desarrollo urbanístico y es una zona con antecedentes históricos de situaciones de desastres en el área.

Context & Constraints:

Los procesos de coordinación y preparación no son simples, requieren del gasto y de la atención por parte de las instituciones y a su vez el personal está desempeñando sus funciones regulares.

Adicional se requiere mayor contribución transfronteriza para la evaluación de riesgos y para el estudio de amenazas, puede que en estos momentos falte mayor voluntad política ante estos aspectos pero a nivel de instituciones educativas y científicas se pueden realizar avances importantes.

- Hay que promover más acciones a nivel internacional en el que se vean reflejados beneficios para ambas partes y que estos en su mayoría al momento de una situación se conviertan en reducción de costos y de pérdida de vidas.

Limitaciones:

- Recursos Económicos para implementar programas y proyectos transfronterizos.
- Las comunidades no quieren separarse de lo que consideran su propiedad, aunque estén viviendo en riesgo.

Peru (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Nivel de Progreso 4:

El INDECI, en representación del Perú en el marco de APEC, (del cual el Perú es Presidente en esta oportunidad) organizó y condujo el CEO Seminar y posteriormente participó en el Task Force for Emergency Preparedness, que se realizó del 12 al 15 de Agosto y que concluyó con la Aprobación de la Estrategia para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres, preparación y respuesta a Emergencias del al Región Asia Pacífico: 2009-2015.

Avances en el Programa Binacional de Ciudades Sostenibles: Perú – Ecuador, incluye elementos metodológicos en relación a Programas y Proyectos, además de Planes de Ordenamiento Territorial (Premio a las Buenas Prácticas Gubernamentales – 2006, en la categoría Sistema de Gestión Interna, con el Programa de Ciudades Sostenible).

Existe interés por realizar proyectos de ordenamiento territorial con gestión de riesgos.

Se conformó en octubre de 2008, la Red Humanitaria Nacional, espacio de coordinación de la Cooperación Internacional y el Gobierno del Perú a través del Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil, con la finalidad de fortalecer al Sistema Nacional de Defensa Civil, en la labor de preparación y respuesta frente a desastres.

Se ha elaborado un Protocolo de Actuación Básico por Desastre Sísmico en Lima y Callao, el escenario de mayor gravedad que se pudiera presentar en el Perú por sus repercusiones sociales, económicas y políticas; que se ha puesto a prueba en un Ejercicio de Simulación con participación, con participación de ONG nacionales e internacionales, organismos de cooperación técnica bilateral, agencias de Naciones Unidas, INDECI, sectores estatales, representantes regionales y locales.

La Red Humanitaria Nacional viene desarrollando un proceso de Planificación Operativa, a fin de contar con instrumentos de consenso que mejore la coordinación para la respuesta a desastres, considerando las Lecciones Aprendidas del Sismo del Sur, las recomendaciones de la Misión UNDAC de Preparación para la Respuesta a Desastres en el Perú, entre otros insumos.

Se cuenta con un documento preliminar de Procedimiento de Coordinación entre la Cancillería e INDECI en casos de Desastres de gran magnitud.

El Perú aportó sugerencias a la Guía de Operación para Asistencia Mutua frente a Desastres en los países andinos, aprobado por el CAPRADE.

Context & Constraints:

LIMITACIONES:

- Limitados recursos económicos que garanticen la sostenibilidad de los programas transfronterizos
- Limitada disponibilidad de recursos humanos calificados.

RECOMENDACIONES:

- Promover programas de gestión de riesgo bilaterales que fortalezcan la formación de recursos humanos locales en el ámbito de influencia de los programas.

Saint Lucia [\(in English\)](#)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Regional co-operation exists in disaster risk reduction, as Saint Lucia is a member of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) a regional disaster management organization. A security agreement 'the Regional Security System (RSS)' also provides security and other support in disaster response. An MOU with Martinique caters for the provision of air-lift for medical evacuations from Saint Lucia to Martinique and other such air services by the Martinique military.

Seismic activity in Saint Lucia and the other CDERA Participating States is being monitored by the Seismic Monitoring Unit in Trinidad.

Avian Influenza monitoring and testing is being conducted on a regional basis by the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO); thus the confirmation of the initial suspicion of any outbreak is done by this regional agency.

Regional and international institutions such as the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), etc. have undertaken regional programs and projects with DRR themes encouraging collaboration and shared learning.

Context & Constraints:

It is sometimes a challenge to get the required National Agencies to implement projects and execute activities required to fulfill regional commitments on a timely basis.

United States of America (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

The United States has had trans-boundary interactions on hazard and risk assessment for specific hazards and cases. On a related front, there are extensive efforts to share data with neighboring countries and global partners. The United States maintains a number of global space-based and in situ observation capabilities that generate data that are fully accessible to all Nations. In turn, the United States relies on data generated by the observation capabilities of other Nations as part of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems.

Context & Constraints:

See above.

Venezuela, Bolivarian Rep of (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

El Estado venezolano, a través de sus instituciones nacionales responsables de estudios sobre amenazas sísmicas e hidrometeorológicas, toma en cuenta los riesgos regionales. Una de las tareas a acometerse tiene que ver con la amenaza sísmica en la frontera colombo-venezolana, que involucra la amenaza ante fenómenos de origen sísmico entre Colombia y Venezuela. Hasta el presente FUNVISIS, ha trabajado en algunos aspectos de la misma, caso de la sismicidad histórica, pero no se ha alcanzado un nivel de coordinación óptimo entre los países.

El Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Salud ha coordinado con los estados y regiones fronterizas ante cualquier alerta o aparición de enfermedades y mantiene información constante sobre el tema, actualizaciones, y trabajos conjuntos en la solución del problema. Así mismo, a través del MERCOSUR se han realizado reuniones importantes que contribuyen al fortalecimiento institucional en la materia, como el caso especial del tráfico ilícito de materiales radiactivos en las fronteras y en el sector salud, a través de la Comisión Intergubernamental de Gestión de Riesgo y Reducción de Vulnerabilidad (CIGRRV).

Context & Constraints:

Implementar un sistema de intercambio de información y comunicación sobre amenazas transfronterizas entre los países vecinos.

Ampliar y fortalecer los estudios nacionales considerando los riesgos regionales y transfronterizos, haciendo énfasis en la microzonificación de los riesgos.

Consolidar la existencia de esquemas regionales existentes, como el ALBA, MERCOSUR, UNASUR, AEC y CAN, para propiciar y fortalecer el trabajo coordinado entre los países de la región.

Asia

Bahrain (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

- The GCC Organisation and its Secretariat sponsors regular meetings of Directors General of Civil Defence.
- The member countries jointly produce codes and regulations on buildings, chemicals and other potential hazards (eg Radiation hazardous materials etc).
- Joint training exercises between member States for combating these hazards are conducted.
- Institutional mechanisms exist to pool the substantial resources of member States.
- In addition to this, Bahrain works closely with UN (ISDR) and also takes advice from other International Agencies, such as IAEA to which Bahrain has recently become a signatory and has been a member of ICDO.
- Many challenges will be overcome once Bahrain identifies the International dimension of the National Platform and which other Nations and International Organisations should be involved as a part of the platform.
- The NCDM will take this forward through the reactivated Civil Defence Council, and ensure the subject of DRR is given appropriate priority at GCC Ministers of Interior Meetings.

Context & Constraints:

- Despite the GCC cooperation above, there is still lack of access to and sharing of data bases with member countries.
 - Lack of a system to interlink the member countries' warning systems to give sufficient early warning of an impending hazard.
-

Bangladesh (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Institutional arrangements exist between FFWC and neighbouring countries (India central water commission) upstream to limited exchange of hydro meteorological data. Arrangements are in place to facilitate information sharing regarding AVIAN influenza outbreaks near borders.

Context & Constraints:

Information exchange regarding AVIAN influenza needs to be strengthened. Application of research and findings on hazards is limited. Establishment of SAARC Disaster Management Centre and adoption of SAARC Comprehensive Framework on Disaster Management created opportunity for more regional cooperation in risk assessment at regional scale and exchange of information.

Cambodia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

1 - Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

Description:

The initiatives and activities have been initiating and implementing under framework of the Mekong River Commission's programmes, namely "Flood Management and Mitigation Programme (FMMP)" in collaborating with the members states of the Mekong River Commission, in which the Royal Government of Cambodia is one of the member states, is implementing the programme through its national line ministries and local authorities. There are five key components under MRC's FMMP programme, including:

Component 1 (C1): Establishment of Regional Flood Management and Mitigation Centre (RFMMC), under this component, four outputs are planned:

- An operational regional FMM centre under MRC to operate the regional flood forecast and dissemination early warning information in the riparian countries
- Improved monitoring, operational forecasting, warning and dissemination services
- Medium and long term forecast
- Risk assessment tools and flood risk analysis

Component 2 (C2): Structural Measures and Flood Proofing. There are two key outputs are implementing under this component.

- Guidelines for best practice design of the structural and flood proofing measures. It is primarily focusing on development of national guideline on practical of the structural and flood proofing
- FMMP implementation plan. It is focus on how to implement the of FMM plan

Component 3 (C3): Enhancing Cooperation in Trans-boundary Flood Issues

- Information generation
- Capacity & skills building
- Toolbox development

Component 4 (C4): Flood Emergency Management Strengthening

- Preparation and implementation of flood preparedness programmes
- Developed national capacities, regional knowledge sharing
- Facilitated trans-boundary emergency between provinces

Component 5 (C5): Land Management

- More reliable flood probability information
- Capacity of relevant line agencies in the area of land management
- Regional sharing of knowledge on improved land management

Context & Constraints:

- There are existing and regular cooperation and collaboration agenda on socio economic, trades, and security between neighbouring countries, local authorities, but the cooperation on risk assessment and disaster risk reduction has not been initiated and established well and joint planning on disaster risk assessment and risk reduction between neighbouring countries and local authorities have not be developed and implemented.
- There are less efforts of local, international and regional organizations to provide technical and financial support to strengthen cooperation, collaboration, and mechanisms of regional cooperation on risk assessment and risk reduction

Recommendation to Overcome:

- Assessment on country framework to identify the gaps, needs and priorities for developing joint plan and mechanism to implement the plan and to develop procedures of cooperation on risk assessment and risk reduction
 - Neighbouring countries and local authorities should include disaster risk assessment and risk reduction into regular and permanent agenda of cooperation and collaboration through joint plan and implementation.
 - Increasing engagement and involvement of local, international and regional organizations to provide technical and financial support for strengthen regional cooperation on disaster risk assessment and risk reduction.
-

India (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

The country hosts the SAARC Disaster Management Centre (SDMC) which aims to put in place a regional disaster management system to reduce disaster risks, improve level of preparedness for effective response at the regional level and implement regional programmes on disaster preparedness and response (early warning). The SAARC Centre for Disaster Management (New Delhi), SAARC Coastal Zone Management Centre (Male) and SAARC Meteorological Research Centre (Dhaka) will implement the SAARC Disaster Management Framework. SDMC is mandated to disseminate knowledge, experiences and network with various research and training organizations in the region. For regional cooperation on dissemination of early warnings India Meteorological Department has been identified as one of the six Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre by World Meteorological Organization and is mandated to provide advisories and bulletins with up-to-date first level basic meteorological information on all tropical cyclones, hurricanes, typhoons in the South Asia region.

Context & Constraints:

No significant contextual challenge is identified.

Indonesia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Agreement and commitment have been established between regions which have or face similar risks, for example the four regencies vulnerable to Merapi eruption in Yogyakarta and Central Java provinces. The four regencies located in two different provinces have signed a cooperation agreement in disseminating early warning information, evacuation process and the management of trans-boundary refugees (across administrative boundary in regency and provincial levels). In terms of regional or international risks; agreement, cooperation and commitment in the Tsunami early warning system have been established. For example, under the coordination of Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO), mandated by the international community, has established the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWS).

In addition, Memorandum of Understanding to consider trans-boundary risks has been developed among the ASEAN country members to build resilient nations to deal with disasters and to realize the safer community by the establishment of ASEAN Regional Programme on Disaster Management (ARPD) which focuses on the ASEAN regional strategies for disaster management, including the field and priority activities for disaster risk reduction.

Context & Constraints:

The unavailability of regulations and policies on data and information exchange pertaining to disaster risks has become one of the reasons why the existing data and information exchange has not been satisfactory.

Agreement and commitment to cooperate in the risks assessment in intergovernmental levels has been established, but the technical implementation does not function properly due to political considerations, different capacities of each country or region, and the geographical conditions and situations affecting the accessibility.

To overcome such challenges, policies and regulations must be endorsed to facilitate the disaster risk data and information exchange. Besides, agreement and commitment efforts on interregional risk reduction must be focused on human issues to minimize the political consideration issues and problems on interregional level without ignoring the sovereignty and security of respective countries.

Iran, Islamic Rep of (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

In line with this the government has taken significant measures in hosting the Asian Seismic Risk Reduction Centre with the following objectives, expected results and functions,

- 1- Enhancing capacities in the field of seismic risk reduction and vulnerability assessment
- 2- Reducing human losses and economic damages caused by seismic risks and disasters
- 3- Facilitating exchange of information, knowledge and expertise on seismic risk reduction among governments and institutions and enhancing public awareness
- 4- Promoting regional and inter-regional networking and partnerships on disaster risk reduction
- 5 - Assisting governments in implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.
 - 1- Building a culture of safety and resilience and enhancement of public awareness and knowledge on seismic risks
 - 2- Training and research at academic level on seismic risk reduction
 - 3 - Training and enhancing awareness of authorities, managers and experts dealing with disasters in countries of the region and seeking the attention and support of policy-makers
 - 4- Assessment and analysis of seismic risk reduction
 - 5- Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in the countries' development programs.
 - 6- Facilitating access to necessary information and data by specialists working on disaster in the countries of the region.
 - 1- To develop existing methods or establish appropriate ones for exchange of information, knowledge and expertise on seismic risk reduction and support related scientific programs and public awareness raising activities in the region
 - 2- To mobilize and coordinate adequate resources and make necessary arrangements to conduct and support policy oriented research on seismic risk reduction
 - 3- To hold specialized trainings courses, workshops and seminars on seismic risk reduction
 - 4-To contribute towards implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, including support for the establishment of national platforms on risk reduction and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into developmental programs as well as providing technical assistance

Context & Constraints:

Since this centre has started its activities just recently, naturally there are some challenges to be faced in the phase of operation. There are some challenges that must be tackled at national, regional and international level.

Japan (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Taking into account the lessons learned from bitter experience of the 1960 Chile tsunami formed by seismic activity far from Japan, the government has been making collaborative efforts with other relevant countries to establish an early warning system against tsunamis in the Pacific Ocean. Japan Meteorological Agency acts in coordination with the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) in Hawaii and issues a long-propagating tsunami warning. JMA operates the Northwest Pacific Tsunami Advisory Center, which provides more tailored tsunami information for countries in the Northwest Pacific region in cooperation with PTWC.

Context & Constraints:

Global warming alert average weather conditions on a global scale, bringing negative impacts including growing potential risks of natural disasters resulting from the frequent occurrence of fierce natural events. To reduce risks from natural disasters by climate and environmental change due to development activities, fostering further efforts for taking mitigation measures in collaboration with all sectors of international society is required.

Further, globalization and rapid spreading out of the economic activities by corporations tend to trigger a regional or global chain reaction of economic damages caused by a disaster in a place. Risk assessment taking into consideration of the chain reaction of the adverse impact should be further considered.

Kazakhstan (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Regional cooperation in term of risk assessment is in the beginning of a process. Central Asian Bodies responsible for ES are preparing to sign the Agreement for the Central Asian Coordination Center with location in Almaty. One of the main point of this Agreement regards to problems of regional cooperation in risk assessment.

Context & Constraints:

n/a

Korea, Rep of (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Regional Safety Diagnosis System is in operation considering local and regional disaster characteristics. The system includes indices such as population and economic power of the region and diagnosis program and database are also developed.

Context & Constraints:

As indicated in Priority for Action 2, Core Indicator 1, since the result of safety diagnosis can affect the real-estate price in the areas and region, the diagnosis processes are sometimes pressurized by political reason.

Kyrgyzstan (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

Central Asia is one of the most disaster-prone regions. Natural disasters that significantly threaten the region are as follows: mudflows, floods, landslides, avalanches, droughts, earthquakes, etc. At the moment the vulnerability reduction is considered as the key factor of sustainable development. The level of awareness of decision-makers on the issues related to the need for establishment of an Integral Disaster Risk Management System that will strengthen the response training capacity is consequently being increased.

Preventive activities, such as risk assessment, disaster forecasting, and raising of awareness of the target groups promote disaster risk minimizing. Trans-boundary integration of disaster prevention activity reduces vulnerability of the mentioned countries and helps avoiding the economic and material losses.

Nowadays the solution of the problem on trans-boundary disasters is being fulfilled within the framework of several international projects that are implemented and are being implemented in CA countries. Among these projects is the project on "Ecological safety of Central Asian countries" that considered the problems on trans-boundary disasters of some parts of Fergana valley on the territory of CA countries. This project also included establishment of the International Coordination Group for consideration of the issues on reclamation and rehabilitation of the tailing dams located of the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic and being of the trans-boundary character.

In the course of the ICG project implementation there were inspected the dumps of uranium wastes in Kyrgyzstan.

As a result there were identified the areas of trans-boundary disasters damaging both territory and population of Central Asia at the same time.

The next project is devoted to trans-boundary issues related to strong earthquakes occurring in Central Asian countries. The preliminary phase of this project is implemented from July 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009. All five Central Asian states will be involved in the implementation of this project.

Trans-boundary issues related to the tailing dams were considered and discussed at large conferences, workshops and symposiums conducted in Kyrgyzstan for many times. The international conference devoted to this issue is organized under the assistance of the UN and OSCE representative offices.

Context & Constraints:

General problems related to trans-boundary disasters:

- Lack of the unified warning system and communication in case of emergency situations
- Non-preparedness of the population inhabiting trans-boundary areas to possible disasters
- Poor awareness of the population in border areas on possible disasters
- Lack of joint trainings on preparedness to disasters
- Lack of experience sharing on the issues related to disaster preparedness, prevention and response, etc.

Lao People's Democratic Republic (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

The floods in 2000 caused significant damages to the countries in the Lower Mekong Basin, with 450 million USD for Viet Nam and Cambodia. Therefore, the MRC council instructed the MRC secretariat to prepare the flood management and mitigation strategy for Lower Mekong Basin, and the strategy was endorsed by the council in 2001. In order to implement the MRC flood management and mitigation strategy, the flood management and mitigation programme (FMMP) was formulated, which includes 5

components: (1) establishment of regional flood management and mitigation center, (2) structural measures and flood proofing , (3) transboundary flood management , (4) flood emergency management strengthening , and (5) land use. The objective of FMMP is to prevent, minimize or mitigate people's suffering and economic losses caused by floods while preserving the environmental benefits of floods.

MRC needs quantifiable flood vulnerability indices in order to direct on going and future activities of each of five FMMP components into the most cost-effective and socially-effective areas. MRC recognizes that if the FMMP Program does not make significant improvements in reducing flood vulnerability at the community level, the program misses its mark . Therefore ,the flood vulnerability assessment and mapping project (FVAMP) started under the FMMP component 1, the project phase I and fact findings and concept development were carried out during 18 June - 13 July 2007. Assessments were done in terms of the project needs and relevance to agencies operating at the community level and the potential contribution of these agencies to the project.

Context & Constraints:

Information on this is not available

Maldives (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

National Tsunami Warning System takes into account regional and Trans-boundary risks. The government has established many partnership to realize the above but inadequate study of the region and less priority of this region in the global scenario has caused a little realization of regional/trans-boundary risks.

Context & Constraints:

International bodies like the IPCC and other leading Universities must be invited to do a region specific study as the study is much beyond the government's present capacity and resources. Strong advocacy in international forums could help in obtaining the desired outcome.

Nepal (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

National and local levels risk assessment is still a new phenomenon in the country. The need for regional cooperation and especially real time data sharing has been recognized by most stakeholders in different forums. Some initiatives have been taken place such as dialogue with India regarding inundation, regional flood information system initiative, etc. With the support from UNISDR, government of Nepal is undertaking the disaster-poverty interface study.

Context & Constraints:

National and local levels risk assessment is still a new phenomenon in the country. The need for regional cooperation and especially real time data sharing has been recognized by most stakeholders in different forums. Some initiatives have been taken place such as dialogue with India regarding inundation, regional flood information system initiative, etc. With the support from UNISDR, government of Nepal is undertaking the disaster-poverty interface study.

Pakistan (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

With regard to the regional trans-boundary risk analysis, Pakistan can be ranked at level two. Institutional commitment has been attained as Pakistan has already entered into regional partnerships in the field of disaster risk reduction. It is one of the 27 member states of Asian Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC). The Center works to build disaster resilient communities and to establish networks among countries through many programs, including personnel exchanges in this field. Through the ADRC forum, Pakistan is committed to share information and knowledge about disasters with the member states. It also contributes in Research at the ADRC through nomination of research scholars.

Pakistan is also one of the 8 member states of SAARC Disaster Management Center (SDMC) which serves as the regional forum for the member countries for providing policy advice and facilitating capacity building services, including strategic learning, research, training, system development, expertise promotion and exchange of information for effective disaster risk reduction and management. Being one of the member states, Pakistan is committed to the charter of the SDMC which calls for sharing of best practices and lessons learnt from disaster risk reduction efforts at national levels, developing and implementing regional programmes and projects for early warning, establishing regional system of exchange information on prevention, preparedness and management of natural disasters and a regional response mechanism dedicated to disaster preparedness, emergency relief and rehabilitation to ensure immediate response

Context & Constraints:

The regional geopolitical situation does not allow free flow of information and sharing of data between countries in South Asia. Besides, South Asia being one of the less developed regions on account of technology and communication infrastructure, the arrangements for flow of information and early warnings are not at the desirable levels. Therefore, governments of the Region ought to take practical steps to ensure free flow of information and exchange of experiences on disaster management through mutually agreed mechanisms on disaster management. The member states of ADRC and SDMC are also required to take meaningful steps to implement regional strategies and policies as envisaged under the charters of the respective forums.

Philippines (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

Global climate change, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), acts of terrorism, and weapons of mass destruction are trans-boundary hazards have emerged as priority concerns of the nation. Although enhanced capability through trained personnel and protective equipment is gradually being improved, other emergency preparedness components need to be integrated into current and future contingency plans.

The Philippines is an active member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) regional cooperation on risk reduction. This is mainly through the joint disaster drill called ASEAN Regional Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (ARDEX) held annually in a host ASEAN country. The exercise tests regional capacity to respond and render humanitarian assistance using a different disaster scenario every year. In 2009, ARDEX will be hosted by the Philippine Government.

With regard to extreme weather events, the broader context of climate change needs to be addressed by LGUs as well. DILG's Local Governance Resource Center has began a 3-day program in 2008 to help LGUs understand how climate change would likely impact the Philippines, and the role of they will play in mitigation and adaptation. On the national level, the Presidential Task Force on Climate Change is undertaking a strategic approach to address issues on climate in the country and is collaborating with

international partners to support a global front to stabilize greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition, there are noteworthy sub-national efforts to monitor the migration of foreign birds which are potential carriers of the avian flu virus into Philippine territory. The Regional Task Force on Avian Influenza organized the Bantay Ibon (Bird Watch) in Eastern Visayas. In July 2008, a new bird watching group has been formed in about fifty (50) barangays in Leyte Province.

Context & Constraints:

Generally, people's awareness of transboundary risks is low. National, regional and local mechanisms to inform and educate citizens should be established and utilized.

Adapting to climate change and its associated and projected impacts such as accelerated sea level rise, particularly in low-lying coastal communities will entail resourceful planning and resource allocation.

Singapore (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

5 - Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

Description:

Singapore is actively involved in various regional meetings to deal with transboundary smoke haze pollution in order to reduce the risk.

Context & Constraints:

The problem of transboundary smoke haze is sometimes beyond Singapore's control. There are also other diseases such as the chikuniya disease which was imported to Singapore by foreigners.

Sri Lanka (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

The Department of Meteorology maintains an effective regional data exchange and monitoring system. Met. Dept. has established link with Pacific tsunami warning center (PTWC) and Japanese meteorology agency (JMA) through Global Telecommunication System.

Trans-boundary meteorological hazards are monitored by department of meteorology.

Memorandum of understanding had signed by DMC with ADPC for exchange of information

DMC connected with Japanese meteorology agency and receives information on tsunami and earth quakes.

Technical agencies responsible for monitoring and assessing risk are connected to DMC with a inter government network.

DMC has established close links with SAARC disaster management organisation for training and exchange of information.

National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency Provide real time sea levels and other available information's at any given time to DMC, Department of meteorology and other relevant authorities for ocean based disaster early warning and mitigation.

Ocean based trans-boundary hazards are monitored by National Aquatic Resources Research and Development agency.

System is been developed with the assistance of Atomic Energy Authority Sri Lanka and IAEA to monitor the trans boundary effect of nuclear accidents in the region specially from India.

Contingency Plan for oil spills has been developed and contacts have been established to get the assistance to respond to major oil spills from the regional agencies.

Context & Constraints:

Financial assistance is required to develop capacity of institutions and to procure required equipment.

Absence of regional contingency fund hamper the quick response to major disasters such as oil spills, tsunami etc.

There is no regional early warning provided in the Indian Ocean. Countries in the Asian region have to establish bilateral links for exchange of data and information. There is an urgent need to strengthen the regional cooperation in this area.

Syrian Arab Republic (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

The government is attempting to strengthen the regional and international cooperation in regard to risks reduction through holding cooperation agreements in the field of exchanging experiences and information and providing aids during disasters. In this context Syria has cooperation agreements with Jordan, Tunisia, Malta and Switzerland.

In addition to the mentioned agreements there is a direct cooperation with Turkey in the field of forest fires including direct contact in order to adopt the immediate procedures for firefighting besides providing technical equipments.

Context & Constraints:

The means of communications and customs procedures are factors that constraint the implementation of monitoring regional and trans-boundaries risks.

Tajikistan (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Central Asia is one of most natural disaster-prone regions. The natural disasters include mudslides, floods, rockslides, droughts, earthquakes, avalanches, etc. That presents enormous danger to the safety of the region. At present, reduction of vulnerability is viewed as a key factor for sustainable development. The awareness of the persons who make decisions on necessity of creating the Integrated System of Disaster Risk Management is growing; such system would help improve the potential in preparedness and response.

Preventive measures, such as risk assessment, forecast of natural disasters, increasing awareness of target groups allow in general minimizing the risk of natural disasters. Trans-border integration in activities for prevention of natural disasters reduces vulnerability of countries and helps reduce economic and material losses.

At present, problems of trans-border natural disasters are addressed in a number of international projects that were accomplished or continue in the countries of Central Asia. Among them is the "Project for ecological safety of countries of Central Asia", part of which reviewed issues of trans-border natural disasters in some areas of Ferghana Valley in the territory of countries of Central Asia.

In the course of the project, three districts were surveyed in the territory of Tajikistan: Asht, Kanibadam and Isfara. The survey revealed areas where the trans-border natural disasters (mainly landslides and earthquakes) cause damage and threaten the population and territories of sections of Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan at the same time.

The other project, the preliminary phase of which is implemented from July 1, 2008 through February 28, 2009 focuses on trans-border problems, in connection with strong earthquakes occurring in the countries of Central Asia. All five countries of Central Asia take part in implementation of the project.

The trans-border problems related to the possible burst of Lake Sarez, were considered and discussed at many international conferences, seminars and symposiums in Tajikistan. The last international conference on this subject was organized and conducted with support of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in (UNISDR) May of 2007. The participants of the conference determined a number of measures required for ensuring stability of the Usoy dam and the Pravoberezhny rockslide.

Context & Constraints:

The main unresolved issues:

- The mudslides and floods that originate in the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic and inflict enormous damage to the territory of Tajikistan (the Kanibadam and Isfara districts)
- The catastrophic raise of water table in the Lakan valley in Isfara district of the Sughd region caused by filling up of the Toktogul water reservoir in the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic
- The risk of contamination of the water in the Syr-Darya river flowing through to the territory of the republic of Uzbekistan, by the washed-off radioactive waste from the nuclear waste tailings in the territory of the Sughd region of the Republic of Tajikistan

Common problems related to trans-border natural disasters:

- Lack of unified system of alert and communication in emergency situations
- The population of border areas is not prepared for possible catastrophes
- Low level of awareness of population of border areas of the possible natural disasters
- Joint trainings and exercises for preparing for possible natural disasters are not organized
- There is no exchange of experience in the issues of preparedness for natural disasters, their prevention, response, etc.

Uzbekistan (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

In the territory of Uzbekistan such natural hazards are present as earthquakes, landslides, mudflows, floods and drought. Earthquake is the disaster that causes the largest aftermath. For example, the strong earthquakes that took place in the 20th century in Andijan (1902), in Tashkent (1946 and 1966), in Gazli (1976 and 1984) caused great economic losses and large numbers of casualties.

Context & Constraints:

The earthquakes with magnitude of 7.0-7.3 degrees in Iran, Armenia, Japan and Turkey killed tens of thousands people. Three earthquakes of the same magnitude in Uzbekistan caused death of only eight persons. This indicates the high level of seismic zoning and the earthquake resistant construction, and can serve an example of effectiveness of measures.

Viet Nam (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

At local level, some provinces have paid attention to regional/transboundary disaster risks in their provincial disaster risk assessments. MARD is the technical ministry responsible for the overall disaster management and reviewing structural measures that consider the balance of cost and benefit of different regions and areas. For example, in 2007 Prime Minister approved the flood mitigation plan for Red river delta, and MARD reviewed existing plans for flood mitigation in Mekong delta. In 2008, Ninh Binh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Phu Tho, Vinh Long, Phu Yen, Hai Phong, Bac Giang Provinces and Hanoi City have completed the flood reduction plan in which the trans-boundary risks have been taken into account.

At national level, the bi/multilateral corporations with other countries in Mekong region like Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia through MRC have achieved some preliminary results such as the strategy for flood mitigation and management of the lower Mekong basin with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction developed and implemented.

Context & Constraints:

At local level, the trans-boundary risks have been taken into account. However, it is still common that each community and province tend to more emphasize its benefits than the risks of others. These are the big challenges of dealing with the trans-boundary risks.

There are existing and regular cooperation and collaboration agenda on socio economic, trades, and security between neighboring countries, local authorities, but the cooperation on risk assessment and disaster risk reduction has not been initiated and established well and joint planning on disaster risk assessment and risk reduction between neighboring countries and local authorities have not be developed and implemented.

There are few efforts of local, international and regional organizations to provide technical and financial support to strengthen cooperation, collaboration, and mechanisms of regional cooperation on risk assessment and risk reduction.

Proposed solutions:

Trans-boundary risk assessment should be a must for any structural measures, particularly large-scale infrastructure project.

Assessment on country framework to identify the gaps, needs and priorities for developing joint plan and mechanism to implement the plan and to develop procedures of cooperation on risk assessment and risk reduction. Neighboring countries and local authorities should include disaster risk assessment and risk reduction into regular and permanent agenda of cooperation and collaboration through joint plan and implementation. Increasing engagement and involvement of local, international and regional organizations to provide technical and financial support for strengthen regional cooperation on disaster risk assessment and risk reduction.

Yemen (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Risk assessment and mapping has been identified as a priority for Yemen to support the development of the national strategy and legal framework for Disaster and Climate Change Risk Reduction.

The MWE (GDEE) is working through support of GFDRR/WB in developing a National Risk Map covers the majority of hazards and risk in the country.

Context & Constraints:

- lacking of the experiences and knowledge.
 - lacking for the financial and technical resources..
 - Lacking for the public and official awareness.
 - Lacking for the required equipments, capacity and experience.
 - Absent of the historical data- bases.
-

Europe

Armenia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Regional cooperation is essential for risk assessment and reduction.

Armenia signed the Inter-governmental Agreements on seismic risk reduction with the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Tajikistan. The international Armenian-Russian Project “ Earthquake source investigation and seismic hazard prediction in Caucasus” between the Armenian NSSP and Geophysical Survey of Russian Federation has recently been renewed.

The Armenian NSSP is a member of Euro-Mediterranean seismological center and exchange valuable earthquake information with partner countries in the region.

The Project “ Prevention of emergencies in the Southern Caucasus” funded by the German Government and to be implemented by GTZ. In Lori and Tavush marzes of Armenia and Sheki-Zakatala region of Azerbaijan with the population of around 150 thousand people..

The Important objective of the Project: capacity building of the Southern Caucasus communities which are most suffered from negative consequences of natural disasters

Context & Constraints:

Some political reasons are still considered as obstacles to manage successful cooperation though as is often admitted: the disaster has no boundaries, and the neighboring countries ought to jointly do the best to prevent the forthcoming catastrophes.

Bulgaria (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Close cooperation on risk reduction with all countries and relevant institutions in SEE

Context & Constraints:

Closer cooperation on joint projects needed.

Croatia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

The Republic of Croatia has an active international cooperation with the neighboring countries through bilateral agreements signed with Slovenia, Hungary, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Austria,, Poland, Slovak Republic, as well through regional initiatives and organizations (Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative) and CMEP SEE (Civil-Military Planning Council for Southeast Europe) and participation in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

Several projects of common interest have been conducted covering risks such as earthquakes, forest fires and floods.

Context & Constraints:

Strengthening of the system at local level is a precondition for joint operations of neighboring counties of two states in case of disasters and major accidents in border areas.

Czech Republic (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Regional and trans boundary cooperation is relatively well established with neighboring countries- Austria, Germany, Poland and Slovakia. Also cooperation with EU in general has been improving. As an example - the Czech Republic participates in an International warnings web pages within EU for hydrometeorological hazards coordinated by Austria.

Context & Constraints:

More coordination and exercises might be beneficial.

France (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

- La gestion des inondations des fleuves transfrontaliers est une préoccupation française. Les coopérations régionales et internationales prennent tout leur sens dès lors que l'on aborde les phénomènes météorologiques, les inondations transfrontalières ou le risque de tsunami. S'agissant des risques nouveaux, un travail important doit être conduit afin de distinguer ce qui peut faire l'objet d'une prise en compte pratique et concrète de ce qui relève encore de la prospective. Ainsi les conséquences perceptibles du changement climatique portent sans doute dans l'immédiat sur l'élévation de la température moyenne et celle du niveau de la mer. A contrario, le risque météoritique ou encore les conséquences à très longue échéance du déplacement régulier non négligeable du pôle magnétique ne relèvent pas de ce niveau. Sur les premiers points, il existe aujourd'hui des processus de concertation et d'échange ainsi que des dispositifs partagés qu'il convient d'améliorer. Sur les seconds, notamment ceux pour lesquels on perçoit des effets à moyen terme, des réflexions s'engagent au plan national et le réseau européen des plates formes nationales qui se met en place pourrait promouvoir quelques approches communes.

Context & Constraints:

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Germany (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

The BBK established a GIS to carry out risk analyses for civil protection and conducted spatial analyses related to different subjects of protection, hazards and risks at a joint national level, when considering efforts that cross Federal State lines. From an international standpoint, the BBK carries out a research project together with partners such as UNU-EHS, DLR or the flood management centre in Cologne to identify indicators for the measurement and assessment of vulnerabilities and coping capacities (see link). This study is based on the work of national actors such as CEDIM and GFZ, but additionally on the EU-projects “Applied Multi-Risk Mapping of Natural Hazards for Impact Assessment” (ARMONIA: see link) and “Security and Trust in Cities” (SETRIC: see link).

In the case of the “Federal Agency of Technical Relief” (THW: see link) it is well integrated into a domestic and international network of those making requests and those partners offering cooperation. Networks are continuously broadened, further developed, and expanded on all levels, from local to international. In terms of efficient cooperation, several cooperation agreements and Memoranda of Understandings were concluded between THW and various partners.

One of the most important transboundary collaborations includes the international river commissions: Prevalent German examples include the “International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine” (ICPR: see the links below), the “IC for the Protection of the Danube (Donau) River” (ICPDR), the “ICP of the Elbe River” (ICPER), the “ICP of the Odra River” (ICPO) and the “Internationale Kommissionen zum Schutz der Mosel und der Saar” (IKSMS), which all carry out flood risk assessment appendages to ensure flood control and management in an cooperative approach. On the Rhine, for example, an action plan exists (see link) which contains all riparian states (see also the “European exchange circle on flood forecasting” (EXCIFF) and “TIMIS-Flood” links).

For storm and thunderstorm warnings the weather services use supra-regional information, but the warning systems of the different countries are not harmonized. The warning system “meteoalarm” contains EU-wide extreme weather warnings and the national meteorological services work together in “The Network of European Meteorological Services” (EUMETNET: see links).

The GFZ and other German research institutes and universities are partners in the “Seismic eArly warning For EuRope” (SAFER: see link). The current OECD program “Global Earthquake Model” (GEM: see link) aims to interlink the different projects and actors and provide a uniform, independent standard to calculate and communicate earthquake risk worldwide.

In the case of wildfire response, the authorities of the most wildfire-prone Federal State of Brandenburg and the neighbouring province of Poland have signed a bilateral mutual assistance agreement, while mutual visits and cooperative forest fire research have been conducted between Germany and Poland.

The “Federal Foreign Office” emphasises in its guidelines for DRR (see link) the future priority placed on development/advancement of regional networks. Therefore it supports, among other initiatives, a current project conducted by GFZ Research Centre Potsdam and InWEnt, which aims to build a risk-analysis network in Central Asia.

The German development cooperation supports concrete regional measures within the flood management programme „Mekong River Commission“ (Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam), in Central Asia (Armenia, Azerbaijan) and in the Caribbean (Haiti, Dominican Republic). In Central America it has supported (together with the EU) the “Centro de Coordinación de la Prevención de Desastres Naturales en América Central” (CEPREDENAC) in various activities.

Context & Constraints:

Data access across national boundaries is complicated, time consuming and partly impossible, as individual data owners must be addressed in each country. Although there is strong national coordination

with respect to disaster response and protective systems, in the field of critical infrastructure the cooperation is less pronounced, as this industry is largely controlled by the private sector. In the case of wildfires, however, there is no common terminology, training, protocols or incident command systems in place to provide standardized and efficient cooperative wildfire response action. Relevant capacity building/training and protocols must be developed.

However, regional cooperation is developing, especially within the EU. Due to the floods of the Oder (1990) and Elbe (2002) rivers, regional flood management cooperation is increasing and has provided the systems with crucial improvements. As well as the already-mentioned weather forecast and warning systems, a further increase in international cooperation is already taking place, e.g., in “Global Monitoring for Environment and Security” (GMES: see link) or within the WMO.

Italy (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Comprehensive risk assessments are carried out primarily under the responsibility and coordination of the regions, provinces and municipalities. Internal trans-boundary issues are taken into consideration according to the directives and guidelines issued by the National Civil Protection Department, which has the role to keep the whole National picture up-to-date and to stimulate and facilitate the regional cooperation. By means of the reform performed through the Constitutional Law n. 3 of October 18th, 2001, the Italian Regions have acquired the power to enter into international agreements concerning Civil Protection in compliance with the relevant National policies and commitments, so the regions with international boundaries can set up cross-border agreements with foreign Civil Protection agencies and actors. Recent examples of this kind of cooperation are the memorandum of understanding signed by the Friuli-Venezia-Giulia Region and the Republic of Slovenia on January 18th, 2006 and the one signed with the Carinthia Region on November 30th, 2006.

Context & Constraints:

Regional cooperation can be further improved, particularly when international boundaries are concerned. Specialized agencies have been set up in order to deal with risks typically involving more than one region, such as the hydrological risk tied to rivers and to major basins. With regard to trans-national issues, while some regions have already developed their own networks involving both national and foreign partners, others still remain strongly dependent on the National tier.

Macedonia, The former Yugoslav Rep of (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Recognizing that risks and hazards know of no borders, further efforts for enhancement of the regional cooperation is always needed.

There is institutional commitment. The international cooperation with the UN, EU, OSCE, NATO and foreign countries is endorsed. Cooperation is also encouraged with the National and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, other international humanitarian organizations, and NGOs as well as with other National Platforms (hereafter NP).

Regarding the international cooperation, in 2007/2008 CMC and the UNDP completed the project "Planning of early mitigation from wildfires." Furthermore, CMC, in partnership with the UNDP and the Government of Japan is implementing the project "Strengthening of the capacities of the Crisis management center." The goal of the project is to further develop the national DRR capacities. The implementation of the project started on July 1, 2008.

In 2007, a "Memorandum on Understanding on Institutional Framework of the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe"(hereafter: DPPI) was signed. While holding the DPPI Presidency in 2009, Macedonia is advocating closer cooperation among specialized national services. The aim is DPPI to become regional initiative able to create, prepare and carry out exercises and trainings, thus increasing the ability of national services in dealing with: (1)Forest fires, (2)Traffic accident, (3)Rescue from the sea, (4)CBRN accident, (5)Rescue from ruins.

Great progress has been made in terms of the bilateral cooperation and building mechanisms for cooperation of CMC and other NPs. In May, 2008, the "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia on cooperation in the area of prevention, limitation and mitigation of disaster's consequences" was signed. CMC is working on development and international cooperation especially with the neighborhood and the region.

Context & Constraints:

The so-called "name issue" is more than an obstacle for the international cooperation and membership of the Republic of Macedonia in respective organizations. Due to that, we are out of the possibilities for enhanced cooperation and stability.

Although there is regional cooperation regarding natural hazards, further cooperation is always needed.

Montenegro (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Real time data exchange and cooperation with international and national agencies exist only for seismic risks, fires and hidrometeorological risks.

Context & Constraints:

Different levels of development of these services in neighbouring countries represents the main difficulty.

Norway (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

There is improved cooperation with the neighboring countries. For instance a separate Arctic agreement on disaster risk reduction is in the final negotiating phase.

Relevant EU work is also improving.

Context & Constraints:

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Serbia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Cooperation and information and experience sharing with other countries in the region, neighbouring countries and international organisations (RCC - DPPI, CMEP, UN ISDR, CIMA Foundation, USAID, UNDP, UN OCHA etc.) are on a high level. Protection and Rescue Sector considers international cooperation extremely important for disaster management (prevention, preparedness, efficient response and relief).

Protection and Rescue Sector also takes part in regional projects in the field of disaster risk reduction.

Context & Constraints:

It is important to make an assessment of all risks on national and regional level.

It is also important to further strengthen and develop close cooperation with other countries in the region, and international organisations.

Slovenia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Slovenia has signed bilateral agreements with some bordering countries (Austria, Croatia, Hungary) and a protocol with Italy. Additionally, bilateral agreements have been signed with the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and the Russian Federation; agreements with Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Montenegro are in the process of adoption. All the aforementioned agreements include provisions on mutual exchange of information and warnings in the case of major disasters.

In 2002 Slovenia signed the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents. In accordance with the convention, we perform all activities related to sharing information and early warning, as well as regular testing.

Context & Constraints:

Continue to regularly exchange information on risk and threat assessments, perform trainings and provide early warnings through appropriate arrangements on a bilateral basis and within regional mechanisms.

Sweden (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

The local level has the main responsibility to develop programs for emergency prevention and emergency response, and to perform risk and vulnerability analysis. The county administrative boards supervise the process and compile the result at county level.

Context & Constraints:

There is a need for more, and more detailed, information at local and regional level regarding climate

change scenarios and expected changes and deviations in extreme weather events etc.

In order to run simulations and perform more precise risk mappings a better elevation database is required. The grid and mean error in the current database is not sufficient. The Government Commission on Climate and Vulnerability has proposed that the National Land Survey should be commissioned to develop a new elevation database. The database should be generally available and free of charge. The National Land Survey has started the preparatory work.

Switzerland (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

5 - Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

Description:

Regional and trans-boundary risks are especially taken into account at the regional scale, e.g. in the case of river basins, where the problems of upstream vs. downstream interests have to be addressed. For example, an early warning and alert chain exists along the Rhine river up to the Netherlands, coordinated by the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine. Other regional and trans boundary cooperations involve other reaches of the Rhine (e.g. the upper Rhine, common to Austria and Switzerland), other rivers, the Alpine region.

Context & Constraints:

Because of its cultural diversity and adverse environment, regional and trans boundary cooperation has always been important to Switzerland.

Turkey (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Natural disasters have extraordinary results in 21st century. The capacity of each country is not sufficient for dealing with these big events and also disasters are unlimited from borders. Turkey gives great importance for regional and international cooperation on DRR. In the last 40 years we realized many joint projects within the region on this issue.

Turkey has taken an important step forward in order to improve the disaster preparedness, prevention and response capability and co-ordination by signing a memorandum of understanding on the institutional framework of the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE). Document was signed by Turkish Emergency Management Agency General Directorate on 7th of April, 2008.

Another regional co-operation in the field of disaster management is Civil-Military Emergency Planning Council of South Easter Europe (CMEP-SEE) which is focused on encouraging civilian control of military resources during disasters within countries while building a multi-national "network of networks" among countries that facilitate regional co-operation among neighboring countries.

UNDP-TCDC PROJECT; The Project title is " Technical Cooperation Amongst Developing Countries, Disaster Information and Disaster Investigation-Education Centers " and initiated in 2005 with a protocol between GDDA and State Planning Organization under support of UNDP TCDC programme. The main scope of this Project is to change and develop views and experiences on local and regional disaster

mitigation issues with participant countries by multilateral agreements, technology transfer and development of technical cooperation amongst member countries. We have distinguished administrators and participants from 4 participant countries; Tajikistan (Seismology and Earthquake Engineering Institute), Kyrgyzstan (National Academy of Science, Seismology Institute), Ukraine (National Academy of Science, Geophysical Institute), Kazakhstan (Ministry of Education and Science, Seismology Institute and National Nuclear Center, Geophysical Institute).

Some other examples to international co-operations are:

- Council of Europe's "Open Partial Agreement on Prevention and Protection Against Major Natural Disasters,
- Cooperation with Germany on Earthquake prediction,
- Cooperation with China on Earthquake research,
- Cooperation with USA (FEMA and USGS),
- Cooperation with Switzerland and France (on snow avalanches),
- Cooperation with NATO (EADRCC and CEP),
- Joint Task Force Agreement between Turkey and Greece,
- Cooperation with Japan (JICA),
- Under Black Sea Economic Cooperation Agreement "Cooperation among BSEC member states Emergency assistance and emergency response to natural and man made disasters",
- Hazard and Risk Assessments for mass movement between Mediterranean countries (RISCMASS Project),
- GD of Disaster Affairs became authorized user to "International Charter for Space and Major Disasters (2005),
- Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement for DRR with Bangladesh,
- Agreement on DRR with Azerbaijan.
- Agreement on "Scientific and Technical Cooperation for Public Works and Natural Disaster Loss Reduction" with Lebanon.

Context & Constraints:

As it is well-known, Turkey serves as a bridge between Europe and Asia and situated in a very strategic location at the intersection of these two continents.

Turkey's crucial geographic location makes Turkey a key point for the region defined by the Middle East and Caucasus. For this reason Turkey attracts countries of region and international bodies' attention. Too many agreement and joint projects on the same region creates some duplication on the same issue. This duplication also makes unproductive usage of limited resources (human and financial).

United Kingdom (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

The regional tier is a crucial part of England's civil protection framework, ensuring co-ordination between representatives of Category 1 and 2 responders and central government bodies.

Regional Resilience Forums (RRFs) have a key role in developing regional risk assessments which provide a judgement of the likelihood and impact of emergencies that could occur in the region. The regional risk assessments build on the local risk assessments produced by LRFs, and equally ensure consistency and co-ordination with the central guidance provided by the Government on the risks facing the UK as a whole. Risk likelihoods are assessed for a five year period so that the risk assessment will support strategic

planning for the medium term, informing decisions about capability development.

The Civil Contingencies Act places a risk assessment duty on all Category 1 responders. Category 1 responders assess risk as often as is necessary to ensure that they are in a reasonable position to maintain and update their emergency plans and to perform the civil protection duties under the Act, including the duty to maintain business continuity plans.

As part of the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) process, Category 1 responders must co-operate with each other in maintaining the Community Risk Register (CRR). The CRR provides an agreed position on the risks affecting a local area and on the planning and resourcing priorities required to prepare for those risks. It is recognised that requiring each Category 1 responder to perform the risk assessment duty in isolation would lead to a wasteful duplication of resources. It is more efficient, and effective, for individual Category 1 responders to fulfil their risk assessment duties by participating in a collaborative exercise that results in a single, collective risk assessment.

Category 1 responders also have a statutory duty to publish their risk assessments, to the extent necessary to reduce the impact of an emergency on the community.

Context & Constraints:

At times of overwhelming emergency response mutual aid plans are in place to ensure those in need can receive assistance from neighbouring or other regions. On occasions where the event is on an almost national level, military aid is available, but only as a last resort. Consequently some aspects of response and recovery are difficult and seen as much less important i.e. counting the number of properties and businesses flooded or the numbers of people displaced. Equally the costs of using others and their resources can be inhibitive.

Oceania

Australia [\(in English\)](#)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Australia works with bilateral, multilateral and regional partners to reduce the risk of, and respond to disasters and humanitarian emergencies in Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Through building strong partnerships, Australia supports the strengthening of capabilities at regional, national and local levels to prevent, mitigate, prepare for and respond to disasters.

Australia is building the capacity of Pacific and Indian Ocean nations to respond to tsunami warnings, including through funding travel of developing country partners to attend regional meetings and workshops.

The Bureau of Meteorology, with support from SOPAC is assessing the capacity of 14 Pacific island countries to receive and respond to tsunami warnings from the Hawaiian PTWC. Progress has been made on the development of a tsunami hazard map for the southwest Pacific through a partnership between Geoscience Australia (GA) and SOPAC. GA is also working with technical agencies in the Philippines and PNG to build their capacity to analyse natural hazard risk.

Australia is currently co-chair of the APEC Taskforce for Emergency Preparedness with Indonesia. APEC's strengths in emergency preparedness and response lie in regional cooperation, multi-sectoral participation, private-sector partnerships, and political buy-in. APEC can play a constructive role in enabling the region to better prepare for emergencies. Australia also worked with Indonesia to develop ASEAN Regional Forum Strategic Guidelines for Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief.

Australia provides ongoing support to the IFRC's International Disaster Response Laws, Rules and Principles (IDRL) Asia-Pacific program which aims to address operational challenges in international disaster relief operations.

Australia contributes to regional advocacy on DRR through partnerships with the Asia-Pacific Program of the UN ISDR and the World Bank's Global Facility for DRR. Australia bilaterally supports national governments to implement DRR activities and supports capacity development of NGOs to reduce disaster risk.

Context & Constraints:

A study of Disaster Risk Management Needs in the Asia Pacific in 2007 found that there is a lack of coordination between regional stakeholders for a variety of reasons, including: lack of resourcing and capacity in some organisations limiting their ability to either lead or participate in regional fora, unwillingness by some stakeholders to realign existing programs with those of other stakeholders, lack of knowledge about global and regional policy reforms and, generally, insufficient understanding about the priorities and programs of other stakeholders.

This lack of coordination results in actual, or potential, duplication of effort in a range of areas, including: regional networks and meetings, knowledge management, capacity building and training, and risk assessment and hazard mapping.

Marshall Islands [\(in English\)](#)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

Australian Tsunami Warning System will facilitate warnings issued in the South-west Pacific through the Pacific Tsunami Warning System (PTWS). Capacity assessment planned 2009.

Context & Constraints:

Considerations for non traditional hazards such as pandemics need to be made

New Zealand (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Description:

Because New Zealand shares no land boundaries with other countries, its hazards and risks assessments are in the main national or local exercises only. Within New Zealand regional and local agencies are expected to consider cross-jurisdictional boundary issues in their risk reduction and emergency planning.

New Zealand cooperates inter-regionally and globally within international science and research fora, such as in climate change modelling. New Zealand also participates in international fora that undertake risk assessments and set policy and best practice standards, to manage regional and global hazards and risks. For example, working with the WHO on public health monitoring and pandemic risks and with the PTWC on pan-Pacific tsunami hazards.

New Zealand also supports South Pacific countries in undertaking risk assessments, and advises on and supports risk reduction through its NZAID programmes.

Context & Constraints:

No significant contextual challenges are identified.

Vanuatu (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

As part of the Pacific regions plan to strengthen regional cooperation and integration as the main instrument of realising the Pacific Vision, the Melanesian Volcanological Network (MVN), was proposed for greater effectiveness and sustainability of volcanological operations throughout the volcanically active parts of Melanesia through partnerships, resource sharing, common understanding and agreed objectives. The MVN is not to replace Vanuatu's efforts to improve volcanic risk reduction but rather enhance these through the provision of a sub-regional framework that would strengthen the volcano monitoring system, the training of staff in its use and in the public awareness of volcano risks and hazards amongst communities. While the MVN is still in the stages of being formalised, the partnership of the technical agency Geological & Nuclear Science (GNS Science) has involved a detailed review of Vanuatu's instrumentation and network requirements for monitoring volcanic hazards in 2007. The support for this monitoring instrumentation includes seismic monitoring and has been earmarked to be implemented over a period of 3 years. A few sub-regional meetings and workshops has been held to flesh out the design and operations of the MVN.

Context & Constraints:

One of the main hindrances in the establishment of the framework has been the absence of PNG in these meetings, the other key Melanesian within this network. However, this has not deterred national activity in Vanuatu who is in the process of presenting to their Cabinet, a scoping paper / policy paper on the MVN.
