Overview of National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction in Europe

Fact Sheets of European National Platforms

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Armenia

National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction “ARNAP”

**Date of creation:** December 2010

**Website:** www.mes.am

**Contact person:** Mr. Movses POGHOSYAN (National Platform Coordinator); Mr. Nikolay GRIGORYAN (HFA Focal Point)

**E-mail:** arnap@mes.am

### History

Armenia is at high risk of natural disasters, owing to high levels of exposure and vulnerability, as well as insufficient capacity to manage risks. Natural and technological hazards threatening Armenia urge the need of development and strengthening of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) system in Armenia. Thus, in response to the interest expressed by the Government of Armenia, the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES) and UNDP Armenia engaged UNDP experts to work with MoES to design and facilitate a Capacity Development process for the national Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) system in Armenia in January 2010. Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015 was selected as a basis for designing actionable indicators to measure the current baseline and identify the desired level of capacity for the DRR system.

Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Development process in Armenia has been an innovative exercise for number of reasons: I) it adapted the UNDP Capacity Development Methodology for DRR; which was the first time in the region; II) the assessment process established a measurable base line of DRR capacity in Armenia; and III) it directly engaged 6 key DRR organizations and was verified with a wide range of DRR stakeholders, at a national and local level.

Based on the results of the DRR capacity development process, an Action Plan for capacity development has been recommended to strengthen the DRR system in Armenia. The Action Plan focuses on three capacity areas:

1) Core organizational capacities;

2) Technical capacities; and

3) Community engagement and cooperation.

National platform was one of the priority recommendations and as a result of the joint efforts of the Ministry of Emergency Situations, UNDP and UNISDR and other DRR interested partners In December 2010, the Government of Armenia adopted a decision on formation of "ARNAP" (DRR National Platform) Foundation. Being a non-governmental organization, it provides opportunities for state, non-governmental, private and international institutions to participate in decision-making and consultation processes. At the same time, it provides opportunities for organizing and controlling day-to-day
operational activities, implementing long-term projects; it also provides necessary flexibility to respond to new challenges.

Structure
Structure of the DRR NP presented below
Main players of the DRR NP are government authorities of Armenia, Ministry of Emergency Situations, and international and donor organizations working in the field of DRR, UN, Armenian Red Cross society, as well as scientific institutions, civil societies and experts.

At different stages, other participants may be involved in the process, including representatives of various state and public agencies and organizations, private sector and religious institutions.

Advisory Council (AC) The AC as external Body is the main forum of the DRR NP where regular discussions are held on main issues of the DRR system, recommendations are developed which become guidelines for the activities of the NP. Decisions on quantity and quality of the AC members are decided by the Board of Trustees (BoT). AC sessions are advisable to hold on quarterly basis, and call for special sessions, as required.

Board of Trustees (Board) is consists in 15 people, and manages the activity of the DRR NP in compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia. The Board consists of -

1) eight representatives from the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Armenia;
2) two representatives from the staff of the National Security Council of the Republic of Armenia (with the consent).
3) one representative from:
   a. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia;
   b. Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia;
   c. Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia;
   d. Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Armenia;

Board sessions are held, as required, at least twice a year. The Board assigns Director of the DRR NP who reports to the Board of Trustees.

The Board members perform their responsibilities without remuneration and on non-profit basis.

Director, administrative staff – a small staff headed by the Director works on organizing ongoing activities of the DRR NP. Organizational and financial decisions of the administrative staff are made by the Board of Trustees. The Director and the administrative staff assist in organization of the works of experts and thematic groups, and also initiate programs and services in accordance with the DRR NP objectives.

Thematic groups (TGs) – main functions of the DRR NP require formation of TGs and organization of their work. This will assist in effective use of human and other resources for overcoming long-term and short-term issues of the system.

Experts – one of the objectives of the DRR NP is to involve local and international experts for strengthening the DRR system in the country. In this sense, the DRR NP may expect active participation and assistance of international and donor organizations.

Programs – based on the DRR NP goals and objectives, special programs may be initiated and implemented to strengthen the DRR system and the DRR NP. Programs must be approved by the Board of Trustees.

Services – In accordance with its goals, the DRR NP can perform the following types of services:

1) Prevention of natural and technological disasters (preventive activities for collapsing and landslide phenomena);
2) Implementation of rescue activities in mountainous areas and other territories, accompanying groups, provision of water rescue services, implementation of anti-fire protection as ordered by organizations, installation and servicing of anti-fire, air conditioning and other systems in high and other buildings.
3) Conducting scientific and research studies, development and introduction of new technologies.
Objectives of the DRR NP

1. Elaboration of DRR strategy and coordination of implementation. Improvement and development of the legislative field.
2. Clarification of roles and responsibilities of DRR NP stakeholders, harmonization of agency interests, provision of functioning and cooperation between and among DRR NP stakeholders, efficient use of resources.
3. Development of knowledge and learning, raising public awareness, strengthening of analytical skills.
4. Development of DRR methodology, including improvement of monitoring system.
5. Integration of DRR into development policies, program and planning.
6. Foster Partnership and environment for developing a culture of preparedness and advocacy for disaster resilient communities.

Expected outputs of DRR NP

1. Advocacy of DRR issues, DRR strategy and improvement of DRR sector legislative field.
2. Increase the effectiveness of decision-making in DRR NP system.
3. Introduction of DRR NP mechanisms, application of common methodology and creation of databases.
4. Strengthening DRR NP capacities and knowledge in all levels, introduction of DRR studies in education system, as well as raising awareness.
5. Inclusion of DRR in all development programs for empowering sustainable development of the country.
7. Expansion of integration into international cooperation, promoting implementation of HFA, implementation of Millennium Development Goals and provision of transparency, and assistance in regional development in DRR cooperation.
8. Improvement of conditions for effective use of natural resources and protection of the environment.
9. Capacity Building of various stakeholders for integrating DRR into the development planning, policy and programs
10. Linking DRR into other sectored interventions and ensuring disaster proof development in any developmental initiatives

Aims

The goal of the DRR NP is to support in the establishment of multi-sectorial mechanism for DRR in the Republic of Armenia, reduction of risks of technological and natural emergency situations and reduction of and early recovery from implications of emergencies.
Activities

2011

- ARNAP Advisory Board established based on negotiations and discussions.
- ARNAP short term working plan was developed and approved.
- The internal, administrative procedures and documents was developed and adopted.
- Donor mapping was conducted to identify potential donors to support the function and activities of ARNAP.
- ARNAP short-term (startup) strategy was developed to ensure the sustainability of the Foundations.
- ARNAP long term strategy was developed.
- Resource mobilization and partnership roadmap for ARNAP was developed with the involvement of an international consultant.

2012

- DRR National Strategy and action plan were adopted by the Government of RA.
- 10 DRR regional teams were established for the decentralization of HFA and DRR National Strategy implementation in the local level.
- Bilateral partnership has been initiated with German Red Cross BW branch and German Federal Civil Defense System (BBK).
- Study tour to Germany to get exposed with the German experience in crises management and DRR at federal and regional levels.
- Local Level Risk Management concept was developed and tested in 40 communities.

2013

- Memorandum of understanding on cooperation was signed with the Kyrgyz national platform.
- Community risk Certificate is developed and being tested in 12 communities.
- Local Level Risk Management educational common package has been developed in cooperation with MoES, UNDP and DRR stakeholders and distributed to 915 communities. Different thematic groups have been established (see the organogram).
- Several meetings, workshops and DRR events are being organized in cooperation with local and international organizations, Civil Societies, Ministries etc. Support is being provided to the people with disabilities related to (Employment, adaptation of working premises to their special needs, transportation etc.).

Promote the implementation of priority actions of “Mainstreaming Adaptation and Disaster Reduction into Development” (MADR:iD) program in Armenia in cooperation with UNDP, UNISDR, MoES and Global Education and Training Institute for Disaster Risk Reduction (GETI).
Belarus

The State System of Prevention and Elimination of Emergency Situations (National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of the Republic of Belarus)

**Date of creation:** 10 April 2001

**Website:** www.112.by

**Contact person:** Mr. Evgeny BARANOVSKY

**E-mail:** e.v.baranovsky@gmail.com

**History**

On the 10 April 2001 according to the Decision of the Council of Ministries N 495 the State System of Prevention and Elimination of Emergency Situations was founded.

This decision was taken to team up all governing bodies, organisations, local authorities, private and public sector for providing consistent approach of prevention and elimination of any emergence situations, efficient protection of people, territories, national heritage against risks and threats.

**Structure**
Budget

Budget is a flexible and updated each year but cover all necessary activities.

Aims

The protection of people and territories against natural and man-made emergency situations.

Activities

Principal tasks:

- development and implementation of legal and economic norms for the protection of population and territories from emergency situations;
- realization of targeted and scientifically-technical programmes, aimed at the prevention of emergency situations and elevation of stability of operation of organizations and social facilities in emergency situations;
- ensuring of preparedness for actions of management bodies, forces and funds which are assigned and allocated to the prevention and elimination of emergency situations;
- creation of republican, sectoral, territorial, local and site-level reserves of material resources for elimination of emergency situations;
- collection, processing, exchange and delivery of information in the field of protection of population and territories from emergency situations;
- prepare the population to act in emergency situations;
- prediction and assessment of the social-economic consequences of disasters;
- implementation of the state examination, supervision and control in the field of protection of population and territories from emergency situations;
- elimination of emergency situations;
- implementation of measures for the social protection of the population affected by emergencies, carrying out humanitarian activities;
- realization of the rights and obligations of the population in the area of protection from emergency situations, as well as those who are directly involved in the elimination of such situations;
- international cooperation in the field of protection of population and territories from emergency situations;
- planning and realization of the complex of measures for protection of population and territories from emergency situations;
- organization and realization of measures of preparation for carrying out activities of civil defense;
- operational delivery to state bodies, other organizations and the population of warning signals and information about arising emergency situations, procedures and rules of conduct in such situation;
- monitoring and prediction of emergency situations.
**Principal Direction of Activities:**

**Ministry for Emergency Situations**

- realization of the state policy in the sphere of prevention and elimination of emergency situations of natural and man-made disasters, including organization of activities for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations, coordination the activity of the republican bodies of state government, local executive and administrative bodies to ensure the functioning of the State System of Prevention and Elimination of Emergency Situations (further - SSES);
- organization and realization of measures of preparation for carrying out activities of civil defense;
- development of state programs for the protection of population and territories from emergency situations, prediction, prevention and elimination of such situations;
- coordination on functioning of the monitoring and forecasting system of natural and man-made disasters in the Republic of Belarus;
- arrangement of warning managing staff, regional and sectoral subsystems of SSES, commissions for emergency situations and population about appeared accidents, disasters, natural hazards and information about the elimination of the consequences of such situations;
- elaborate proposals to the Council of Ministers about the financing from national budget activities for prevention and elimination of emergency situations, creation and use of material values, available in the state material reserve, for elimination of emergency situations;
- organization of state supervision in the sphere of protection of population and territories from natural and man-made disasters, state supervision and control in the field of nuclear and radiation safety, state supervision in the field of security transportation of dangerous goods, state fire supervision, state supervision over the protection and use of the territories affected by radioactive contamination, state supervision of industrial safety;
- approval or agreement of norms, standards and regulations on the protection of population and territories from emergency situations;
- organization of special training for managerial personnel of coordinating authority and managing bodies of emergency situations, emergency rescue services, training the population over the ways of protection and actions in emergency situations, control over the creation of material reserves;
- organization the elimination of accidents and natural disasters, fire control and people rescue;
- participation in carrying out aerial prospecting of places of emergency situations, providing immediate transportation of forces and material resources, necessary for conducting works for elimination of emergency situations and evacuation measures, execution of search and rescue activities;
- registration and account potentially dangerous objects and industries in the Republic of Belarus;
- state registration of nuclear materials, sources of ionizing radiation, radioactive waste and the control over their safe maintenance, transfer and disposal.

**Ministry of Internal Affairs**

- maintenance of public order in emergency situations, the organization of cordon and pass control zones of infection (destruction), safeguard of the material and cultural values in emergency situations, as well as personal property in the areas of temporary resettlement;
- participation within the competence, in elimination of emergency situations, evacuation of population and material, cultural values to safe areas, the realization of safeguard of facilities for the sustainable economic functioning.
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Ministry of Public Health
- organization and supervision of the sanitary-epidemiological situation in the country;
- prediction and evaluation of the medical-sanitary consequences of emergencies with participation of the Ministry of Emergency Situations;
- prediction and evaluation of the sanitary-epidemiological situation in the emergency zones, the development and implementation of anti-epidemic measures;
- preparedness of medical organizations to provide medical assistance for people affected by emergencies;
- preparedness for public health organizations for the prevention of iodine with the threat or occurrence of radiation accidents at nuclear facilities;

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- promotion in the development of international relations in the field of prevention and elimination of emergency situations, mutual assistance in case of accidents, catastrophes and natural disasters;
- ensuring interaction with foreign countries in the field of provision of international humanitarian assistance to populations affected by emergencies, and for evacuation of citizens of the Republic of Belarus from crisis zones abroad;
- supervision of the execution of international agreements in the field of prevention and elimination of emergency situations;
- assistance in obtaining information about the extent and consequences of emergency situations in the territories of neighbouring states.

Ministry of Communications and Information
- provision in the prescribed manner of communication channels to organs of management of SSES;
- provision, in priority, to the Ministry for Emergency Situations, commissions of emergency situations, the necessary communication channels to transmit operational information in emergency situations and during carrying out rescue and other emergency operations;
- provision in the prescribed manner the operating and maintenance of the centralized notification and communication system of national, regional and local levels for their sustainable operation;
- maintenance in constant readiness of freelance emergency rescue and recovery departments (emergency repair teams), intended for the repair work at the facilities of communication;
- organization and implementation of measures to prepare for the activities of civil defense;
- establishment and organization of functioning sectoral subsystem of SSES.

Ministry of Agriculture and Foodstuffs
- organization of interaction with the local executive and administrative bodies on issues of epizootic, phytopathological and poison control, elimination of epizootic and epiphytoties, radiation pollution control of agricultural land, raw materials and products, and the management of agricultural production in the conditions of radioactive contamination, implementation of measures to prevent and eliminate emergency situations in subordinate facilities;
- observations, analysis and evaluation of the condition and changes of the sources of emergencies, predicting their occurrence in the monitoring and forecasting of natural and man-made disasters;
- prediction and evaluation of emergency situations on subordinate facilities, epizootic situation in emergency zones;
- conduction research for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations in agriculture;
realization of the complex of measures to ensure uninterrupted operation of reclamation facilities in emergency situations;

Ministry of Forestry
- prediction the possibility of uprising of emergency situations in the forests of the Republic of Belarus;
- organization and provision of measures to prevent emergencies involving fires in the forests, as well as the massive spread of pests and diseases of forest vegetation;
- prediction and evaluation of the situation in fires in the forests, forest pathology situation in the areas of emergency;
- coordination of the local executive and administrative bodies on the organization of fighting forest fires, as well as during the fire-related emergency response;
- observations, analysis and evaluation of the condition and changes of the sources of emergencies, predicting their occurrence within the framework of the system of monitoring and forecasting of natural and man-made disasters;

Ministry of Transport and Communications
- organization and implementation of measures for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations at subordinate facilities;
- observations, analysis and evaluation of the condition and changes of the sources of emergencies, predicting their occurrence within the framework of the system of monitoring and forecasting of natural and man-made disasters;
- prediction and evaluation of emergency situations at subordinate facilities;
- provision of prior transportation of forces and resources needed to carry out work on the emergency response and evacuation measures;
- maintenance in permanent readiness specialized associations branches intended for elimination of emergency situations;
- arrangement of transportation of dangerous goods;

Ministry of Finance
- ensuring the financing of activities devoted to prevention and elimination of emergency situations on republican and trans-boundary scale, finance assistance to affected population and organization according to the state legislation.

Ministry of Industry
Ministry of Energy
- observations, analysis and evaluation of the condition and changes of the sources of emergencies (fires and explosions at dangerous industry facilities, accidents at the treatment facilities, electrical power system and life support systems, traffic accidents with dangerous goods, fires in natural ecosystems, hydrodynamic accidents), predicting their occurrence in the monitoring and forecasting of natural and man-made disasters;
- organization and implementation of activities for the prevention and elimination of consequences of emergency situations in subordinate organizations;
- carrying out search-and-rescue operations, reconstructive and other pressing work by forces of sectoral specialized subdivisions, search and rescue services;
- maintenance in permanent readiness for actions sectoral specialized subdivisions, search and rescue services intended for elimination of emergency situations;
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Ministry of Defense
- participation in elimination of consequences of emergency situations by military units of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Belarus in accordance with the plans of interaction;
- maintenance in readiness for actions subdivisions allocated from formations and military units for elimination of emergency situations;
- planning, organization and carrying out activities of the local defense;
- arrangement operations for elimination of emergency situations related to storage, maintenance, transportation of arms and military equipment and neutralization of ammunition;
- ensuring radiation, chemical and biological (bacteriological) conditions control in the areas of location of the facilities of the Ministry of defense;

Ministry of Architecture and Construction
- supervision and control of adherence to the requirements of technical normative cited acts by designing and building of facilities;
- organization and implementation of measures of the preparation for holding activities devoted to civil defense;
- establishment and organization of functioning sectoral subsystem of SSES;
- participation in developing the methodology of implementation of calculation of the damage and the need for material and technical resources at carrying out rescue and emergency–repair operations for the elimination of emergency situations;
- organization and implementation of measures for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations at facilities that are part of the sector;

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
- organization and monitoring the condition and pollution of the environment, including during emergency situations;
- organization and implementation of state control in the field of environmental protection, including during emergency situations;
- observations, analysis and evaluation of the condition and changes of the sources of emergencies, predicting their occurrence in the monitoring and forecasting of natural and man-made disasters;
- organization and participation in the work devoted to classify certain parts of the territory to the areas of environmental risk;
- participation in the development of measures for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations;
- maintenance in constant readiness forces and means of surveillance and control within the network of observation and laboratory monitoring of civil defense;
- organization and implementation of measures of the preparation for holding activities devoted to civil defense;
- establishment and organization of functioning sectoral subsystem of SSES;
- informing the population and republican bodies of state government about the condition of the environment;
- taking measures of indemnification for the harm caused to the environment as a result of emergency situations;
- organization and realization of operational control and forecasting over the areas of distribution of radioactive and chemical contamination in emergency areas.
Ministry of Education
- organization the training of students and pupils devoted to the basics of life safety in emergency situations.

State Committee on Science and Technology
- organization and coordination of conduction the scientific research in the interests of improving and developing SSES.

State Committee for Standardization
- organization the elaboration of technical normative cited acts in the field of fixing of output rates and standardization devoted to the prevention and elimination of emergency situations;
- realization of state control and supervision of compliance with the technical regulations for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations;
- establishment and maintenance of the state standards base and transmission system of units of measure to ensure control over the parameters of radiation, chemical and biological conditions, as well as other parameters that determine the extent of emergency situations.

Committee for State Security
- revelation of plans, intentions and concrete actions of criminal groups and individuals over the realization of acts of terrorism and information about them in the prescribed manner;
- realization within the limits of authority activities for ensuring security in terms of emergency situations;
- ensuring the participation of forces and resources of bodies of state security of the Republic of Belarus in investigating the causes of man-made disasters.

Ministry of Housing and Communal Services
- organization of interaction with the local executive and administrative bodies in solving problems related to the training unemployed people for actions in emergency situations;
- realization of activities aimed at protecting the population from the consequences of accidents and disasters, natural and environmental disasters;
- observations, analysis and evaluation of the condition and changes of the sources of emergencies, predicting their occurrence in the monitoring and forecasting of natural and man-made disasters;
- maintenance in constant readiness sectoral forces and means for action in elimination emergency situations;

Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
- elaboration of proposals in the area of social protection of the population affected by emergencies with the participation of interested republican bodies of state governance.

Belarusian Republican Unitary Insurance Company "Belgosstrakh"
- insurance payments according to the facts of the damage caused to juridical and physical person as a result of an emergency situation for insurance contracts concluded by the Belarusian Republican Unitary Insurance company "Belgosstrakh".
State Customs Committee
State Border Committee
- assistance in the implementation of international treaties and agreements on cooperation during occurrence of trans-boundary emergency situations and humanitarian assistance;
- provision in the established order of prior customs clearance and free admission of humanitarian aid at checkpoints across the state border.

Ministry of Trade
Belarusian Republican Union of Consumer Societies
- organization of provision the affected population with food products and manufactured goods of prime necessity;
- provision of emergency supplies of building materials, tools and equipment for elimination of emergency situations;
- organization and implementation of measures of the preparation for holding activities devoted to civil defense;
- establishment and organization of functioning sectoral subsystem of SSES.
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ministry of Security - Protection and Rescue Sector

**Date of creation:** 23 March 2013  
**Website:** www.msb.gov.ba  
**Contact person:** Mr. Samir AGIC  
**E-mail:** samir.agic@msb.gov.ba

### History

**2004**  
Civil Protection Sector of the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina was founded in 2004. In accordance with the article 14, line 7 of the Law on Ministries and other Administrative Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in the area of protection and rescue, Ministry of Security is authorized for:

- Execution of international obligations and cooperation in civil protection execution,
- Coordination of activities of Civil Protection Administrations of Entities in Bosnia and Herzegovina Brcko District and needs in case of natural or other disaster that affect Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- Passing protection and rescue programs and plans.

**2008**  
Delegates to the House of Peoples of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, at the session dated 16 May 2008, passed the Framework Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Goods in Case of Natural or Other Disasters in BH, which defines protection and rescue of people and material goods in case of natural or other disasters in BH, implementation of International obligations and cooperation in implementation of protection and rescue, i.e. civil protection, as well as the responsibilities of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and coordination of activities of Institutions and Bodies of BH, Entity Civil Protection Administrations and competent body for civil protection of Brcko District. The Law came into force on 1 July 2008.

This Law prescribes founding of Operational - Communicational Centre of BH and introduction of the system of Single Emergency Call Number 112 within the Ministry of Security BH. Operational centres of other institutions and bodies of BH, as well as the centres of Brcko District, are connected to the Operational-Communicational Centre.

Operational - Communicational Centre of BH was formed and put into function in January 2010.

In order to implement the Framework Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Property in case of Natural or other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina ("Official Gazette of BH" No. 50/08), the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, formed the Inter-departmental Working Group for the Development of Risk Assessment Regarding Natural and Other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina consisting of representatives of State and Entity ministries, the Public Safety Department of Brčko District and experts from various fields of governmental and non-governmental sector and civil society. When recommending experts, the care was taken that their expertise matches types of hazards listed in the Methodology for Risk Assessment regarding Natural and Other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina,
which defined guidelines and was a baseline document for development of the Risk Assessment of Bosnia and Herzegovina Regarding Natural and Other Disasters.

The development of Risk Assessment Regarding Natural and Other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina is a condition for development of the Plan of Protection and Rescue in Bosnia and Herzegovina and development of the Protection and Rescue Development Program. Drafting the Risk Assessment created a document that encompassed the whole territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina because until now only partial assessments were created for the territory of entities, cantons and municipalities.

The Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina conducted Five Planning Conferences for the development of the Risk Assessment of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding Natural and Other Disasters.

Risk Assessment of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding Natural and Other Disasters was passed by the Council of Ministers on 18 April 2012.

Article 13 item g) of the Framework Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Property in Case of Natural or other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH Official Gazette No. 50/08), stipulates that the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina passes the Protection and Rescue Plan of the Institutions and Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina in case of natural or other disasters. Article 14 item c) stipulates that the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina develops and proposes the Protection and Rescue Plan.

Protection and Rescue Plan shall achieve the following main objectives:

a) determining of organization, engagement and activities of the protection and rescue system, tasks and competences of manpower and necessary resources; measures and procedures for conduct of protection and rescue activities in case of natural or other disasters, i.e. for improvement of planning quality and enhancement of preparedness for natural and other disasters;

b) determining of guidelines for development of protection and rescue plans in entities and Brčko District of BH.

The Methodology for the development of the Protection and Rescue Plan adopted by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina on 30 August 2012.

Protection and Rescue Plan is under development.

Structure

Based on authorizations prescribed by the Law, Regulations on internal organization of the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina define the following organization of the Protection and Rescue Sector:

- Department for International Cooperation and Coordination
- Department for Strategic Planning and Protection and Rescue Measures
- Department for Structure and Training.
- Operational - Communicational Centre of BH
At lower levels of Civil Protection and Rescue organization, Entity Civil Protection Administrations (Civil Protection Administration of Federation BH Civil Protection Administration of Republic of Srpska) and Department for Public Security of Brcko District BH (Civil Protection Service) are organized and operational.

**Aims**

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, there is need to build platforms for disaster risk reduction at the national level in order to systematically decrease various risks, through all economic and social activities. Also, the risks arising from the new developments should be clearly recognized and in advance taken into account.

Disaster Risk Reduction must be part of the strategy of development of the community and involve the knowledge and experience of individual sectors and ensure a multi-sectoral approach, further work should ensure that all subjects at all levels in the country take over their responsibilities, tasks and duties in the systematic disaster risk reduction.

**Activities**

Based on the proposal of the Protection and Rescue Sector of Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in May 2012 the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted the Information about the Establishment the Disaster Risk Reduction Platform of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina tasked the Ministry of Security to establish, in cooperation with relevant Entity and Brcko District Institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Disaster Risk Reduction Platform as a permanent forum for the exchange and provision of opinions, proposals and achievements contributing to disaster risk reduction in all areas of human activities.

The First Conference of the Disaster Risk Reduction Platform of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be held on 25-25 March 2013, in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo.

The First Conference of the Disaster Risk Reduction Platform of Bosnia and Herzegovina will gather the representatives of the protection and rescue structures in BH, governmental bodies, scientific and academic institutions, private businesses, NGOs, local communities, international and regional organisations, as well as numerous representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Draft Agenda, the First Conference of the Disaster Risk Reduction Platform of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall begin in the morning of the Day I with the Opening Ceremony and two sessions: “Disaster Risk Managing” and “Reducing Risk of Dangerous Natural Phenomena”. The Day II of the Conference shall start with “Sectors and DRR Session”, along with discussions on presented topics.
Bulgaria

Consultative Council for supporting the Council of Ministers in forming the state policy for disaster protection

Secretariat of the Consultative Council is Chief Directorate Fire Safety and Civil Protection, Ministry of Interior

Date of creation: 2005

Website: http://www.nspbzn.mvr.bg/default.htm

Contact person: Mr. Nikolay NIKOLOV – Director / Ms. Antoaneta BOYCHEVA - Deputy Director

E-mail: nspab@mvr.bg; a.boycheva@cp.government.bg;

History

2001 - the former Civil Protection Service under the Ministry of Defence was transformed into the State Agency for Civil Protection under the Council of Ministers. The cooperation with IDNDR starts.

2006 – Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents including National Civil Protection Service Directorate General with territorial units in every region of Bulgaria; Becomes a National Platform for DRR

2008 - The Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents was renamed to Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES).

December 2009 - the structure became a Civil Protection Directorate-General under the Ministry of Interior.

January 2011 – With the amendments to the Law on the Ministry of Interior (promulg. Official Gazette No 88 of 9 November 2010) CD Fire Safety and Rescue and CD Civil Protection were integrated in a new structure - Chief Directorate Fire Safety and Civil Protection.

2012- With the latest changes in the Disaster Protection Law a Consultative Council for supporting the Council of Ministers in forming the state policy for disaster protection was created. It was designated as the new National Platform for DRR in the Republic of Bulgaria. The Order of Procedure of the Council came into force on 28 May 2012. The Council continues the state’s efforts in this field since 1990 when started the International Decade for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Structure

The Council is a constantly acting consultative body of the Council of Ministers that ensures the coordination and cooperation in developing and performing the state policy in the field of disaster protection and disaster risk reduction.

The Council consists of a Chairman and members. The Chairman of the Council is the Minister of Interior. The Chairman leads the work of the Council and is supported by a Secretary. The Secretary of the Consultative Council is the Director of CD Fire Safety and Civil Protection, Ministry of Interior.

Other members of the Council are the deputy ministers from all of the other ministries, the Chairmen of the National Security State Agency, State Reserve and War-time Stocks State Agency, Nuclear Regulatory Agency, the Bulgarian Red Cross, the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Bulgarian Industrial Association and the National Association of Municipalities in Republic of Bulgaria, a representative of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and a representative of the Scientific-expert group created under the Council. The scientific-expert group should support the design, coordination and implementation of scientific-technological policy in the field of disaster protection.

Aims

The general aim of the Consultative Council is to support the Council of Ministers in the Republic of Bulgaria to form the state policy for disaster protection and disaster risk reduction.

Budget

The financial resources for implementing the activities of the Council will be provided by the budget of DG Fire Safety and Civil Protection, Ministry of Interior.

Activities The main activities of the Council are in compliance with the HFA strategic goals and priorities for action and include the following:

1. To propose and to coordinate the national policy and the applying of good practices in the field of disaster protection;
2. To develop an Annual Working Program for its activities, priorities and tasks in compliance with the strategic goals in the field of disaster protection and disaster risk reduction;
3. To organize the development of a Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy;
4. To organize the preparation of the HFA Progress reports and to send them to the UNISDR Secretariat;
5. To propose new legislation in the field of disaster protection when needed;
6. To support the Council of Ministers in developing and integrating monitoring systems;
7. To support the Council of Ministers in forming the policy for further development of the National System for Early Warning and Notification of the Executive Bodies and the Population in case of Disasters and its integration with other systems;
8. To support the development of methodologies for disaster risk analysis, assessment and mapping.
9. To support the Council of Ministers in planning of financial resources for disaster protection and disaster risk reduction;
10. To analyse and give opinion to international documents in the field of disaster risk reduction and disaster protection;
11. To organize the development of guidelines for education and training in the field of disaster protection;
12. To organize and support information campaigns for different types of risks and how to react in case of disasters.

In compliance with its responsibilities and activity 3 from the “Main Activities” a National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction was developed and it came into force in 2014. The National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction is based on the Hyogo Framework for Action.
Croatia

National Protection and Rescue Directorate
Affiliated to Ministry of Interior
(Hrvatska platforma za smanjenje rizika od katastrofa)

Date of Creation: November 2009
Website: http://www.duzs.hr/
Contact person: Mr. Jadran PERINIC
E-mail: kabinet@duzs.hr, jadran.perinic@duzs.hr, platforma@duzs.hr

Structure

The Platform Committee is a body established by the Government to coordinate all activities of the Croatian Platform.

Members of the Committee include:

1. National Protection and Rescue Directorate (leading national agency for Croatian Platform)
2. Ministry of Interior
3. Ministry of Defense
4. Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection
5. Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs
6. Ministry of Economy
7. Ministry of Health
8. Ministry of Science, Education and Sport
9. Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure
10. Ministry of Culture
11. Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds
12. Ministry of Agriculture
13. Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning
14. Ministry of Tourism
15. Ministry of Social Policy and Youth
16. Seismological Survey of the Republic of Croatia
17. Meteorological and Hydrological Service, Seismological Service of the Republic of Croatia,
18. Croatian Red Cross,
19. Croatian Mountain Rescue Service
20. Croatian Firefighting Organization,
21. Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts
Activities

At the proposal of the National Protection and Rescue Directorate, in March 2009 the Government of the Republic of Croatia has brought forth a decision on holding a conference on Croatian Platform for disaster risk reduction which is to take place every year under the chairmanship of the Croatian Government’s representatives.

The Decision founded the Croatian Platform Committee under the chairmanship of the Croatian vice prime minister including members from all ministries and other state administration bodies and calling upon representatives of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, large economic entities, public companies non-governmental organizations that deal with protection and rescue, especially Croatian Red Cross, Croatian Mountain Rescue Service, Croatian Firefighting Organization, as well as representatives of religious communities registered in the Republic of Croatia. The National Protection and Rescue Directorate was tasked with the organization and activities between the conferences acting as a secretariat for Croatian Platform.

The Croatian Platform Committee was set up in May 2009 and it defined a program whose goal it is for the National Platform to ensure the participation of all factors of the development of the society. In the year 2010 the Croatian Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction has the same goal and has been working on linking of scientific institutions with all actors included in activities related to disaster risk reduction and disaster response. The Croatian Platform Committee has been holding meetings throughout the year in the same composition and discussions were held on how to make the Croatian Platform as sufficient as it can be to make its goals and to progress.

All participants are since then invited to prepare and submit their papers on the topic of disaster risk reduction every year for annual conferences of the Croatian Platform. After every conference the Platform issues conference proceedings.

The first conference of the Croatian Platform was held on 09 November 2009 with over 180 participants from the state authorities, large economic entities, scientific community (Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and several colleges and institutions), as well as citizens’ associations and religious communities. The second conference of the Croatian Platform was held on 14 October 2010. The Second Conference had an international component supporting the Platform’s task of strengthening international cooperation. Guests of the conference on its first day were heads of protection and rescue services in the countries of the region (Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). On the next day, 15 October, participants were addressed by Ms Margareta Wahlström, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, who paid a visit to Croatia owing to the Conference.

On the 4 November 2011, the 3rd Croatian National platform for disaster risk reduction conference was held and more than 150 participants attended the Conference. The fourth Conference, held on 13 December 2012, instructed the Croatian Platform Committee to propose a way of strengthening the jurisdiction and the responsibilities of the Platform, and the possibility of its transformation into a stronger national mechanism that acts as a body responsible for carrying out disaster risk reduction, provides coordination and support to all stakeholders in disaster risk reduction and pushes the implementation of disaster risk reduction into all planning and development documents.

The fifth Croatian National Platform conference will take place outside Zagreb where the aim is to get an opportunity to isolate the participants from their daily tasks and have them actively participate in every discussion as well as produce valuable conclusions and drafted documents as well as generate new ideas and raise awareness.
The results were, besides the conclusion of the Conference, obligatory assignments for bodies responsible for certain areas of DRR in the Croatian Government.

The Croatian Platform also actively participates in the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction raising it to the international level where Croatia exchanges experiences with other members on a yearly basis. Croatia co-chaired the Forum in 2011 and chaired it in 2012.
Czech Republic

Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic

Date of Creation: 2005
Website: http://www.mzp.cz

Contact Person 1: Ms. Marie ADAMKOVA (Department of Security and Crisis Management)
E-mail: marie.adamkova@mzp.cz

Contact Person 2: Mr. Matyáš DOUL (Department of International Relations)
E-mail: Matyas.Doul@mzp.cz

History

At the beginning of 2013, the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic picked up the baton of Czech National Committee for Natural Disaster Reduction (founded in 2005) and fulfils now the role of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Czech Republic.

Structure

The role of main focal point fulfils the Department of Security and Crisis Management at the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic and as the second focal point serves the Department of International Relations at the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic. The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Czech Republic includes experts from following institutions:

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of the Interior
- Fire Rescue Service (Ministry of Interior)
- Czech Hydrometeorological Institute
- Czech National Committee for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Union of Towns and Municipalities
- VSB – Technical University Ostrava
- Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
- Czech Geological Survey

The Ministry of the Environment is coordinating all activities in the field of fulfilling the tasks of Hyogo Framework for Action. The Ministry of the Interior is a lead coordinating institution for disaster risk reduction.

An important part of the Czech system, which ensures the practical application of the activities and objectives of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the Hyogo Framework of Action for the period 2005 - 2015 is the Integrated Rescue System (IRS). IRS is an effective system of links, rules,
cooperation and coordination of rescue and security forces, state and local governments, individuals and legal entities in the joint conduct of rescue and relief work and preparing for emergencies caused by natural disasters.

The basic bodies of IRS are the Fire Rescue Service of Czech Republic, Emergency Medical Services Providers, the Police of the Czech Republic. Other bodies include: Designated powers and resources of the Armed Forces, Public Health Authorities, Emergency, Expert and Technical Services, Civil Protection Facilities, Non-profit organizations and associations of citizens, which can be used for rescue and liquidation operations. Fire Rescue Service is the main coordinator of the IRS. Operations and Information Centre of the IRS mobilizes and deploys the necessary forces and resources of IRS in specific locations.

Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic and different representatives and experts from the above mentioned institutions are attending joint meetings of the National Platform for Natural Disaster Reduction which take place 2-3 times a year, and are discussing main issues and activities related to the field of disaster risk reduction and prevention.

**Budget**

The budget mainly depends on state contribution; some projects are covered by the EU.

**Aims**

The main aim of the National Platform is to support all actions leading to reduce human, social and economic losses caused by natural disasters. The following goal is to integrate Disaster Risk Reduction into decision making processes at all levels.

**Activities**


The Ministry of the Environment ensures warning and forecasting services according the information issued by the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, established by the same Ministry.

The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Czech Republic focuses mainly on:

- supporting of the risk-aware and resilient society able to prevent disasters and to mitigate their impact,
- strengthening legislation on issues related to disaster risk reduction,
- improving crisis management and international cooperation within the frame of disaster risk reduction,
- improving coordination between governmental, non-governmental and private sector stakeholders in the field of natural hazards and disasters.
Finland

Ministry of the Interior

**National platform for mitigating the damage of natural disasters**

*(Kansallinen toimintaohjelma luonnononnettomuuksien vahinkojen rajoittamiseksi)*

**Date of Creation:** 07 May 2010

**Website:** [http://www.intermin.fi/intermin/home.nsf/pages/index_eng](http://www.intermin.fi/intermin/home.nsf/pages/index_eng)

**Contact person:** Mr. Taito VAINIO

**E-mail:** taito.vainio@intermin.fi

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**History**

Finnish national platform was started in the 7 May 2010.

**Structure**

The executive group consists of high level officials and members from organizations as follows:

1. Ministry of the Interior
2. Ministry for Foreign Affairs
3. Prime Minister’s Office
4. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
5. Ministry of the Environment
6. Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
7. Ministry of Transport and Communications
8. National Emergency Supply Agency
9. Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities
10. Finnish Meteorological Institute
11. Finnish Environment Institute
12. Institute of Seismology
13. Finnish Red Cross

In the preparation group there are experts from the same organizations as above except Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities and Ministry of the Environment.

**Budget**

The Finnish national platform has no separate funding and the costs are covered by the participating organizations.
Aims

- Finnish national platform is aiming at improving the preparedness of the society and reduce the damage caused by possible natural disasters
- Another goal of Finnish national platform is also to pull together different actors and utilize the work that already has been done and coordinate better the work that is going to be done as far as natural disasters are concerned
- Finnish national platform also aims at developing cooperation with EU and neighbouring countries and support developing countries to build more risk resilient societies.

Activities

The preparation group is preparing a plan for activities of the national platform for the steering group. The steering group will make the decision about the plan in September.

Activities that have been agreed on:

- 07 May 2010: Kick off meeting of the national platform
- 18 June 2010: Preparation group meeting
- 16 August 2010: Preparation group meeting
- 02 September 2010: Steering group meeting
France

France National Platform

*Plateforme nationale pour la prévention des risques naturels majeurs* (National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction)

**Date of creation:** 2001


**Contacts:** Mr. Jacques FAYE, Ms. Marie Pierre MEGANCK, Ms. Alice AZEMAR

**Email:** jacques.faye@developpement-durable.gouv.fr, marie-pierre.meganck@developpement-durable.gouv.fr, afpcn_international@engref.agroparistech.fr

**History**

The French National Platform succeeded the French Government Committee for IDNDR (1990-2000), and has been active since its inception in fostering cooperation for DRR activities in France and Europe.

**Structure**

The French Platform is a partnership between national and local public authorities, agencies and civil society DRR stakeholders at national and local levels. It is led by the Ministry for Ecology, sustainable development and Energy (MEDDE) in charge of DRR policies, with the support of AFPCN, Association pour la prévention des catastrophes naturelles. It works under the aegis of the COPRNM (Conseil d'orientation pour les risques naturels majeurs), the advisory body for the Minister on DRR matters, gathering the main stakeholders in this domain.

The functions of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction are performed under the direct supervision of the general director for risks prevention and also major risk delegates. The HFA focal point is located within the MEDDE, the general directorate for risk prevention (DGPR). The HFA Focal Point is Mr. Jacques FAYE, head of unit of preventive information, coordination and prospective (DGPR/SRNH/BIPC), and secondary by Marie-Pierre Méganck, head of unit of European and international affairs (DGPR/CAEi). All activities are carried out in association with AFPCN.

**Main members**

Public bodies

- Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy leader and all other ministries

Local authorities (regions, departments, cities and others)

- DRR Stakeholders
- AFPCN
Overview of National Platforms in Europe

- Other NGO
- National scientific and academic authorities
- Private sector

Budget

The MEDDE supports the running costs of the platform; the budget for specific activities is financed by small subsidies from other Ministries (Interior etc.) and by contributions from AFPCN members, including through pro bono work.

Aims

The National Platform helps shaping public policies on DRR. It provides proposals, policy guidance notes and recommendations involving public authorities, research community and civil society on major issues related to disaster risks and is currently concentrating its activities in the following areas:

- National strategy for flood risk management;
- Prevention of seismic risks;
- Strategic approach to international activities of DRR;
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of local risk prevention planning;
- DRR and global change adaptation;
- Linking prevention and emergency response stakeholders;
- Vigilance and early warning systems;
- Networks' vulnerability and resilience;
- Education and public awareness.

Activities

The COPRNM holds 3 plenary sessions per year since Sept 2009. Working groups are active all through the year.

Activities carried out by AFPCN (since 2001: workshops, working groups, seminars, exhibitions, etc.) are listed in http://www.afpcn.org/Calendrier.htm and http://www.ennp.eu/Calendar.htm.
Germany

German Committee for Disaster risk reduction
(Deutsches Komitee Katastrophenvorsorge, DKKV)

**Date of creation:** 2000

**Website:** www.dkkv.org

**Contact person:** Mr. Axel ROTTLAENDER

**E-mail:** rottlaender@dkkv.org, info@dkkv.org

**History**

Following the launch of the IDNDR in 1990 the Federal Foreign office took the initiative to motivate different civil society actors to come together to establish a National IDNDR Committee.

At the end of the decade, the United Nations appealed to member states to establish organizations for disaster risk reduction or to support any existing national and international committees and organizations. Germany, which held the European Union Presidency at the time, drafted the EU position on the institutional framework for the continuation of international efforts for disaster risk reduction, and thus conveyed its member countries’ plea for the United Nations to continue to steer international processes and to uphold a separate secretariat for disaster risk reduction in form of what was to become the ISDR secretariat. This was later established through the ECOSOC-Resolution 1999/63 and the General Assembly Resolution 54/219.

As logical consequences to its international efforts, Germany subsequently created in 2000 the German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DKKV) as a successor arrangement for the German IDNDR Committee. In Germany, there was a clear consensus among all stakeholders that activities with regard to disaster reduction should be continued. The Federal Foreign Office as main donor to the work of the German National Platform ensured their continuing support. Thus, the Committee was able to continue its activities without any interruption. The structure remained the same. The name was changed from “German National IDNDR Committee” to “German Committee for Disaster Reduction”

**Structure**

The DKKV is a registered non-profit association under private law. The structure of DKKV provides a number of possibilities for information exchange, decision making processes and joint member initiatives:

DKKV is directed by an Executive Board, currently chaired by Gerold Reichenbach, Member of Parliament. Composed of ten representatives of DKKV member organizations it meets 4-5 time per year.

- Its members discuss and take strategic decisions with regard to work plan implementation and on future strategic orientations of DKKV.
- The Executive Board is supported by a Scientific Advisory Board and an Operating Advisory Board. The Scientific Advisory Board and the Operative Advisory Board meet twice a year each. Members exchange information on on-going and upcoming initiatives. Out of members of these two boards
temporary working groups are established to provide expertise and joint comments on defined areas of interest of DKKV.

- **A Secretariat** with 7 staff members coordinates the different activities of the Committee and ensures the flow of information among network members and with other national and international partners.
- **The Member Assembly** is the main body of the association and meets at least once a year. The assembly elects the Board of the Committee and is the decision making body for longer term strategic decision making and legally binding agreements.

It currently has 37 voluntary committee members and about 20 long-term guest members from the area of policy, administration, science, the media, private sector and aid organizations.

**Budget**

Core funding for DKKV and its activities is provided through a membership fee. As key contributor to ISDR processes, the biggest share of project funding is provided by the Federal Foreign Office. DKKV also receives various types of financing tied to specific projects and limited in duration and scope. The DKKV is also entitled to accept tax-deductible donations, as it has been certified as a non-profit organization.

**Aims**

The DKKV is designated by the German Government the National Platform for disaster reduction. It also serves as the German Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) focal point institution. As such it serves as focal point and information hub for organizations and initiatives involved in disaster reduction and promotes the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action. It is also a center of expertise in all matters relating to national and international disaster reduction issues. The Committee’s headquarter is in Bonn, located amidst the German and several international development Institutions.

In November 2010 ICSU nominated DKKV as National Commission in Germany for the ten years programme International Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR).

**Activities**

*Contribution to UNISDR processes and initiatives*

The Committee continues to provide substantive input to UNISDR processes and initiatives. It proactively facilitates the participation of German DRR stakeholders and organizations in international DRR initiatives and meetings, including thematic platforms. It also served as a partner for the UNISDR secretariat by implementing a review of National Platforms funded by the German Government. The DKKV has a proactive role in coordinating the consultations for the new HFA. Within the process of developing a new HFA the DKKV has a consulting role for the German Government. Also funded by the German Government is DKKV initiative to conduct a feasibility study regarding the coordination activities of National Platforms in high-risk countries concerning preparedness and prevention. Furthermore DKKV has issued a study in cooperation with the United Nations University, Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), focussing on root causes of disasters.

DKKV is a staunch supporter to promote the concept of National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction at global and regional level, and DKKV is the chair of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR) Working Group on DRR and CCA.
Linking DRR and climate change

DKKV is an official partner to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Nairobi Work Programme. DKKV participated as National Platform at COP 19, and prepared a paper on loss and damage issues.

In addition to the update of the National Report on the implementation of the HFA and active contribution to the process, DKKV contributed to the Midterm Review and Global Assessment Report.

At national level, DKKV participates in the development of the German National Adaptation Plan. DKKV also organized several workshops and other meetings to discuss climate change and disaster risk reduction. DKKV is involved in proposals on transnational and European level. The main role of DKKV will be to cooperate with other National Platforms from European countries in order to make best use of knowledge, experience, and networks of different National Platforms and to strengthen cross border cooperation.

Founding member of a European network of National Platforms for DRR DKKV has been stressing the importance of networking. International networks provide the basis for concerted action, at various national levels, across national boundaries. This approach has led to various project initiatives on the European level.

Improvement of disaster management

Conceptual enhancement of disaster management has been identified by DKKV members as core for the integration of DRR. This includes analysing relevant topics, both national and international, and developing concepts in topic areas. The DKKV is currently implementing a study on lessons learned in regarding response activities in relation to the flooding Germany faced in June 2013. The study is focussing on response strategies of governmental authorities, local authorities, relief organisations and civil society.

The DKKV has been cooperating with the German Federal Foreign Office in preparing the “Principles and Recommendations on Preparedness”. As a result, the DKKV prepared a questionnaire in order to identify the preparedness and stand-by capacities of German relief organisations working overseas. The results from the questionnaire will support the initiative of the German Federal Foreign Office for improved quality of foreign aid.

Since the UN announced the World Humanitarian Summit for 2016, the DKKV is involved in the preparation of the Summit. As part of the thematic group: Reducing vulnerability and managing risk, the DKKV will contribute to the final documents of the summit.
Greece

Hellenic National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (HNP-DRR)

General Secretariat for Civil Protection (GSCP)

Date of creation: 31 May 2012

Website: www.civilprotection.gr

Contact Person: Dr. Olga KAKALIAGOU
Director of International Relations, Volunteerism – Training and Publications
Email: kakaliagou@gscp.gr

History

The Hellenic National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (HNP-DRR) is set up as an open network and a forum of governmental agencies and other stakeholders, with a focus on reducing the risk of natural and/or manmade hazards occurring with a major frequency and having a big social and economic impact on the country.

The official institutionalization of activities and the introduction of informal settings in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction among the relevant national stakeholders have been necessary already from the early national attempts to act in line with the strategic approach and the goals set by the Hyogo Framework of Action 2005-2015.

According to the principal national legislation for civil protection (Law 3013/2002, Ministerial Decree 1299/2003) the basic goals of the civil protection system (protection of life, health and property of citizens from natural and manmade disasters) are met through working out prevention plans and programmes for all kinds of risks (natural and manmade), taking appropriate measures of preparedness and undertaking prevention, preparedness, response and recovery actions. These plans and programmes are elaborated with all the component authorities in national, regional and local level. In a wider perspective, Greece, as a member state of the European Union, takes actively part on a wider policy and strategy planning within the EU for disaster risk reduction.

In the past years, the idea of a coherent policy for Disaster Risk Reduction, as determined by its UN definition, has been diffused to a number of governmental policies and sectoral plans, under the responsibility of the relevant Ministries. The multi-sectoral co-ordination of public authorities in disaster prevention and mitigation measures, as part of the wider DDR management, has been one of the main responsibilities of the General Secretariat for Civil Protection/ Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection from the beginning. Coordination activities engage a number of actors included in the forces and means of civil protection, such as: a) Specialized executives for civil protection at national, regional and local level who are assigned with the supervision of development and application of plans, programs and measures of civil protection and co-ordination of all necessary actions, b) all governmental, regional and local agencies and public companies that are in charge at operational level for concrete actions of preparedness and response to disasters, c) Volunteer Organizations as well as specialized volunteers at national, regional or local level included in the planning made by the General Secretariat for Civil Protection and assigned with the support of plans and actions of prevention, preparedness and response.
Concerning multi-sectoral co-ordination and collaboration in disaster risk reduction, the General Secretariat for Civil Protection is responsible for elaborating, planning and monitoring national civil protection policies under the governmental guidelines. For this purpose, it collaborates with the competent Ministries and relevant institutions for drafting regulations and specifications, to prevent natural, manmade and other disasters, while being responsible for approving all regional and local plans of civil protection, per category of risk. General information and public awareness regarding prevention issues and specific directives provided by the General Secretariat for Civil Protection in case of imminent or present disasters are issues of great importance. Identifying risks and developing early warning systems consist also a basic field of its expertise. In this context, the General Secretariat for Civil Protection has been issuing, for example, during the fire season, a Daily Fire Risk Map for the country that specifies the probability of a fire occurring over time and space.

Recently, the catastrophic impact of disasters, such as the devastating wild fires of 2007, have highlighted in the most dramatic way the importance of a coherent DRR policy at national and local level. It has been made rather obvious that DRR, as a complex and cross-cutting issue, requires collective wisdom and efforts from national policy and decision makers from various government sectors and representatives from civil society and private institutions.

The entry into force of the Hellenic National Platform for DRR reflects the idea of addressing DRR issues in the most coherent way, plus recognizing the importance of DRR for the promotion of national sustainable economic growth and progress.

**Structure**

The Hellenic National Platform for DRR (HNP-DRR) is co-ordinated by the General Secretariat for Civil Protection of the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection. It builds on existing DRR capabilities. Within the structure of the Hellenic National Platform for DRR the following bodies and their political subdivisions are represented, at the present:

1. **Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection**
   a) General Secretariat for Civil Protection
   b) Fire Corps HQs

2. **Ministry of Environment, Energy & Climate Change**
   a) General Secretariat for Environment
   b) DG for Environment/Environmental Planning Directorate
   c) DG for Environment/Emission Trading Office
   d) Special Secretariat for Forests
   e) Special Secretariat for Water

3. **Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport & Networks**
   a) General Secretariat for Public Works
   b) Earthquake Planning & Protection Organization
   c) Earthquake Rehabilitation Service

4. **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
   a) Directorate-General of International Development Cooperation/Directorate of Emergency Humanitarian Aid

5. **Ministry of Health**
   a) National Centre for Health Operations
6. **Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs**
   a) National Observatory of Athens
      • Institute of Geodynamics
      • Institute for Space Applications & Remote Sensing
      • Institute of Environmental Research & Sustainable Development
   b) Greek Atomic Energy Commission

7. **Ministry of Interior**
   a) Directorate of Development Programmes & International Organizations

8. **Ministry of National Defense**
   a) Hellenic National Meteorological Service

9. **Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Aegean**
   a) Coast Guard HQs

10. **Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention**

11. **National Centre for Scientific Research – DEMOKRITOS**

12. **Hellenic Red Cross**

The Hellenic National Platform for DRR (HNP-DRR) shall be constantly open to new stakeholders.

**Budget**

All common initiatives undertaken by the Platform are co-financed by the participating parties and individual activities are financed by the members of the Platform according to the policy field. At the moment, the Hellenic National Platform has no specific budget.

The members of the Hellenic National Platform will seek additional and differentiated financial resources, giving priority to absorbing funds within the framework of the National Strategic Reference Framework (2007-2013) and the Sectoral Operational Programmes that constitute it.

At local level, the annual national budget dedicated to prevention actions and distributed to municipalities by the Ministry of Interior, after a proposal from the General Secretariat for Civil Protection, will continue to serve also disaster risk reduction purposes.

**Aims**

The aim of the Platform is to facilitate the integration of DRR into decision making processes, mainly at the national administration level (national policies, planning and programmes), but also at the level of local administration with the participation of the private sector and research institutions.

The Hellenic National Platform will serve as a co-ordination mechanism for the support of multi-stakeholder co-ordination in implementing DRR activities within the framework of the national legislation and in line with the implementation of the Hyogo Framework of Action.

The overarching goal is to establish a “culture of prevention” with activities that will enable the society to reduce human, social and economic losses caused by natural disasters. Special focus will be placed on reducing the risk and impact of natural disasters occurring with a major frequency and having a big social
and economic impact on the country. Forest fires, earthquakes, severe weather, floods and landslides are primarily concluded in these.

Activities

Under the co-ordination of the General Secretariat for Civil Protection, the Hellenic National Platform for DRR will establish a series of periodical joint meetings of representatives from the relevant stakeholders (regularly meetings will be conducted twice a year). In the first joint meeting of the Platform, a mandate for the Hellenic National Platform will be drafted.

The Platform’s meetings will be:

- Setting the specific goals and priorities for the national DRR policies
- An opportunity of exchanging ideas and reviewing the contribution and efforts of each stakeholder in the field of DRR
- Identifying trends, gaps, concerns and challenges in the implementation of DRR policies
- Monitoring, recording and reporting of DRR actions at national and community levels in line with the HFA
- Issuing specific measures for raising public awareness on DRR issues through public or private campaigns and in close cooperation with the Media.

A possible establishment of thematic sub-working groups, concerning specific DRR themes, may be decided upon the assent of the platform members for the facilitation of its work.

Throughout the year, communication procedures and circulation of information and relevant documents between the platform members will be carried out under the responsibility of the platform’s coordinator.
Hungary

National Directorate General for Disaster Management (NDGDM)

Ministry of the Interior

**Date of creation:** 2001

**Website:** http://www.katved.hu

**Contact Person:** LTC Tamás KISS, Head of Department for International Relations and Legal Affairs

**Email:** hucivpro@katved.gov.hu, tamas.kiss@katved.gov.hu

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**History**

The Hungarian National Platform for Disaster Reduction within the ISDR-System was established in 2001. Since then it has been working within the unified national disaster management, which had been created as a consequence of a reorganization of the Hungarian disaster management system in 1999. The Hungarian platform is now working under the National Directorate General for Disaster Management (NDGDM).

**Structure**

As mentioned above the Hungarian national platform for disaster risk reduction is an initiative of the National Directorate General for Disaster Management (NDGDM). It is not an individual body, so it does not have its own budget either. Thus, the position of the President of the platform is taken by the Director General of NDGDM. Furthermore the Secretary of the platform as well as other positions are filled by heads of NDGDM as well. The members of the platform are drawn from different parts of society:

2. Non-governmental organizations: Hungarian Red Cross, Association of Hungarian Local Governments, Hungarian Baptist Aid
3. Science institutions: Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Eötvös Lóránd University
4. Media: Hungarian News Agency (MTI)
5. Private sector organizations: Budapest Chemical Works Ltd., Association of Hungarian Insurance Companies, Mol Ltd
Aims & Activities

Currently almost thirty members participate in the general platform, which takes place yearly. Aim of the platform is to convene a joint meeting once a year where the competent persons from the governmental, non-governmental, science and private sphere can discuss their contribution and efforts taken in the field of DRR, to discuss the progress taken in the HFA and to come up with new ideas to reduce disaster risks. NDGDM updates the platform members’ about the actual international DRR themes and upcoming ISDR events. On the other hand NDGDM circulates information about the international DRR trends and news electronically to the platform members. Additionally certain members of the Platform regularly meet in other occasions. For example, the Governmental Coordination Committee (KKB) of the Ministry of the Interior is responsible for the preparation of decisions related to disaster management issues of the Government. Hungarian ministries are members of the KKB, as well as of the National Platform as listed above. Another example is provided by the Humanitarian Assistance Coordination (HUMSEKO) working group of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in which the same competent ministries and civil, charitable organizations take part to coordinate humanitarian relief and assistance activities.
Italy

National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (coordinated by the National Civil Protection Department)

Date of creation: February 2008
Website: http://www.protezionecivile.gov.it
Contact person: Mr. Luigi D’ANGELO – Head of International Relations
E-mail: drritaly@protezionecivile.it

History

The Italian National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction has been formally created by a Decree of the Prime Minister issued on February 18th, 2008, aiming at ensuring the full implementation of the Hyogo Declaration and of the Hyogo Framework for Action in Italy.

Structure

The Platform is a coordination forum that builds on existing DRR capabilities. It is coordinated by the Italian National Civil Protection Department (DPC). At present, the Platform includes the following organizations:

Public bodies:
1. Prime Minister’s Office, Department of civil protection;
2. Ministry of foreign affairs;
3. Ministry of interior;
4. Ministry of defense;
5. Ministry of economy and finance;
6. Ministry of economic development;
7. Ministry of environment and land and sea safeguard;
8. Ministry of infrastructures and transportation;
9. Ministry of work, health and social policies;
10. Ministry of education, university and research;
11. Prime Minister’s Office, Department of regional affairs and local government;
12. Unified State and Regions Conference (CSR);
13. National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI);

DRR stakeholders:
1. The National scientific and academic community;
2. The community of NGOs and volunteers’ organizations active in the field of DRR and disaster risk management;
3. The community of insurance companies active in Italy represented by ANIA
4. Other organizations invited to join the works of the Platform on a subject-matter basis.

**Budget**

All initiatives undertaken by the Platform are co-financed by the participating parties.

**Aims**

The vision of the Platform is a risk-aware and resilient society able to prevent disasters and to mitigate their impact.

The aim of the Platform is to integrate Disaster Risk Reduction into decision making processes at all levels in policy, administration and in the private sector. The overall goal is to promote all activities that may enable the society to reduce human, social and economic losses caused by natural disasters.

**Activities**

The main mandate of the Platform has been set by Law, and includes:

- to promote all activities required for implementing the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action;
- to represent internationally the Italian DRR system and to act as a National focal point for the UN-ISDR and other national and international DRR stakeholders;
- to help collaboration and coordination on DRR by promoting the employment of the most suitable operational tools for improving community resilience;
- to support the spreading and strengthening the culture of risk awareness and prevention;
- to promote the integration of DRR considerations into bi- and multi-lateral cooperation agreements;
- to foster the adoption of new DRR initiatives in cooperation with foreign National platforms and stakeholders.

In order to perform the tasks established by its mandate, the Platform aims to:

- be a forum for knowledge sharing, political cooperation on DRR and the definition of sector-specific policies;
- help putting theory into practice by liaising between policymakers, scientists and DRR professionals;
- promote public-private partnerships and joint projects carried out in Italy and abroad;
- link national and international activities and initiatives.
Monaco

Monaco’s National Committee for the Prevention and the Reduction of the Risks of Natural Disasters.

(Comité National monégasque pour la prévention et la réduction des risques de catastrophes naturelles)

Date of creation: July 2009

National Platform Focal Point: Commandant Tony VARO

Website: http://www.gouv.mc/devwww/wwwnew.nsf/HomeGb

Email address: tvaro@gouv.mc

History

The platform has been officially registered to the Secretariat of the ISDR on the 3rd July 2009

Vision/Mission

- To provide a coordination’s mechanism among different partners in setting up a consultative process in order to disaster reduction
- To promote an integrated disaster risk reduction approach within development and construction programs

Structure/Composition

The National platform is composed of representatives of the following institutions:

- one representative of the Department of Interior (Ministry of Internal affairs) ;
- one representative of the Department of Facilities, Urban Planning and Environment (Ministry) ;
- one representative of the Department of Foreign Affairs (Ministry) ;
- one representative of HFA’s contact (UNISDR) ;
- one representative of the subcommittee specialized in the field of natural and technological hazards;
- one representative of the Scientific Center of Monaco.

The functioning of the status of the NP on DRR

The national platform is built around the focal point HFA (Hyogo Framework for Action). It includes members of the subcommittee that specializes in the field of natural and technological hazards created within the Technical Committee of Health, Safety and Environmental Protection (Sovereign Order No. 2214 of June 9, 2009 establishing and organization of the Technical Committee for Health, Safety and Environmental Protection), representatives of the Ministry Facilities, Urban Planning and Environment, Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A member of the Scientific Center of
Monaco also represents civil society, which is in charge to monitor these operations through the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.

**Operational Practices**

Operational practices will be defined during the first operational year of the national committee.

**Activities and Achievements**

Activities yet to be clarified during the first year in the areas defined by the Hyogo framework for action:

- To identify and evaluate of natural risk;
- To foster training and educational actions in regards to risks management;
- To foster international cooperation within UNISDR’s context;
- To foster cooperation between Europeans national platform network in the field of natural disaster risks reduction.

**Challenges and Constraints**

To set up a resilience to natural disasters.
Montenegro

Date of creation: 2014
Website: http://mup.gov.me
Contact person: Mr. Ljuban Tmusic
E-mail: ljuban.tmusic@mup.gov.me

History

With the adoption of the National Strategy for Emergency Situations and Law on Rescue and Protection, as well as by establishing the Emergency Management Coordination Team and Directorate for Emergency Management, as an organizational unit of the Ministry of Interior, conditions are created that on the territory of Montenegro there is a single place from which the following can be performed: risk management in emergency situations, management of rescue and protection in emergency situations and management of recovery of emergency situations consequences. With the establishment of state emergency management system all existing relevant institutions (ministries and other administrative bodies, local government bodies, operational units, police, military and civil sector) which are involved in monitoring process are functionally integrated.

With the aim to perform normative regulation of all relevant areas of government activities which are important for prevention of emergencies and recovery of consequences, several legislative acts which were harmonized with the European Union regulations were adopted such as: Law on Rescue and Protection; Law on Transport of Dangerous Goods; Law on Explosive Substances and Law on Flammable Liquids and Gases.

In the period from 24 to 26 November 2010 the Conference entitled "National Dialogue on Reducing Disaster Risk in Montenegro (National Policy Dialogue)" was held in Kolasin under the Regional Programme for Disaster Risk Reduction in South East Europe, organized by UNDP Montenegro. It was attended by representatives from Montenegrin state institutions such as: Ministry of Interior, Hydrometeorological Institute, Seismological Bureau, Ministry of Defence, Police Directorate, Association of Municipalities of Montenegro, Red Cross of Montenegro, Office for Emergency Medicine, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Tourism and Sustainable Development as well as representatives of OSCE in Montenegro, the U.S. Embassy and other institutions.

Also, in the period from 18 to 20 April 2011 another conference entitled "National Dialogue on Reducing Disaster Risk in Montenegro (National Policy Dialogue)" was held in Milocer, organized by UNDP, which followed the development of this project in Montenegro.

In 2014 the Committee for Disaster Risk Reduction was formed, which consists of representatives from various ministries and agencies in Montenegro, with the task to establish the National Platform for DRR in Montenegro in 25 November 2014.

Structure

The following authorities make the structure of the Montenegrin National Platform for DRR:

Ministry of Interior
Ministry of Defence
Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Science
Institute for First Medical Aid
Institute for Public Health
Red Cross of Montenegro
Hydrometeorology and Seismology Institute
Agency for Environmental Protection
Center for Ecotoxicological Research

Budget

At the moment the Platform has no specific budget and all activities are financed from the budget of governmental and international organisations through different projects.

Aims

- Monitor, examine and determine the achievements that contribute to disaster risk reduction; Organize conferences to exchange views, present and coordinate opinions, suggestions, knowledge and experience to act on disaster risk reduction, as well as to assess risk and activities of all parties involved in the action in order to reduce risk and threats of disasters; Be informed about criteria, directives and initiatives of public administrations related to disaster risk reduction;
- Prepare technical basis for dialogue of all stakeholders in order to achieve the highest quality response to threats and risks of disasters;
- Encourage and connect academic institutions and all entities involved in the action concerning disaster risk reduction;
- Promote initiatives of different public administrations and private sector to implement actions which contribute to the improvement of disaster risk prevention and mitigation;
- Be informed about programmes, projects, reports and recommendations issued by institutions of the UN or UNISDR;
- Raise awareness of all citizens in area of disaster risk reduction.

Activities

- Contribute to need assessment studies for disaster risk reduction activities, policies and make proposals for national action plans on DRR,
- Strengthen legislation on issues related to disaster risk reduction,
- Contribute to programming, monitoring and evaluation of DRR studies and projects,
- Implement targeted and scientifically-technical programmes for prevention of emergencies,
- Prepare proceedings after each conference,
- Ensure more effective and multi-stakeholder studies and activities among various partner organizations working in the field of DRR,
- Develop strategies and policies in order to achieve DRR as well as to support the one already existing,
- Maintain the implementation and monitoring of Hyogo Framework for Action Strategy Plan in the country,
- Support activities so as to increase the awareness of public related to disaster risk reduction.
The Netherlands

National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NL NPDRR)

Date of creation: January 2012
Website: http://www.government.nl/issues/crisis-national-security-and-terrorism
Contact Person: Mr. Corsmas L.P.M. GOEMANS
Email: c.l.p.m.goemans@nctv.minvenj.nl

History

Prevention, preparation, response and rehabilitation/reconstruction are all linked parts of the crisis management cycle. In line with global and EU trends, focus lies on prevention in the Netherlands.

The actions within this crisis management cycle all starts with a proper risk assessment. Next to that the Netherlands work - as basic – with an all hazard approach, because risks are interconnected and do not stop at the borders of organisations, policy fields or even national states.

This approach - all hazard and all phases of the crisis management cycle – needs a united strategy like the ISDR; EU Internal Security Strategy, EU Prevention Framework, and the EU Stockholm programme.

In the Netherlands the activities on national safety and security, disaster reduction and crisis management are based since 2007 on the Cabinet’s Strategy on National Safety & Security.

The Netherlands has increased its commitment in the field of DRR and actively supports the main international instruments such as ISDR and the Global Facility for DRR.

The Netherlands intends to focus on DRR in its forthcoming round of multi-annual planning. The Netherlands also recognise the important role of civil society in particular in promoting implementation practices at local level. Since the beginning of this year, the Netherlands has been funding the Partners for Resilience programme, an alliance of Dutch NGOs aimed at strengthening resilience and capacity at local level. The funding scheme the Netherlands set up has also stimulated partnerships between different NGOs and links between their policies, in this case between DRR, climate adaptation and environment.

December 2011 was decided to appoint the National Steering Committee for National Safety and Security (“Stuurgroep Nationale Veiligheid”, SNV) as National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NL NPDRR) and its secretariat as National Focal Point for the Hyogo Framework for Action (NL FPHFA).
Overview of National Platforms in Europe

Structure

The SNV consists of representatives of all national ministries as well as a representative of private sectors.

Aims

The SNV realizes coherence in national security and crisis management between several levels of government policy, both regional and national, as well as international policy and international developments. Furthermore, it aims to bring together policy and the implementation thereof. The SNV advises cabinet and parliament on disaster risk reduction and regularly reports on National Risk Assessment and activities to strengthen capabilities and coherence.

Activities

Based on the National Risk Assessment (and the outcomes of the research on climate change) the Netherlands generated within the crisis management and disaster relief extra actions.

In 2007 en 2008 a Cabinets’ Taskforce Flooding was installed to develop worst credible flood scenario’s and based on that a nationwide preparation. It cumulated into a week’s exercise with about 15.000 people from NGO’s, different governmental organisations and different operational organisations.

At that time also a Delta commission was installed by the Cabinet to develop a strategy and programme for protecting NL against floods and shortage of drinking water for the next 100 years. (see http://www.deltacommissie.com/en/advies)

In 2009 following the special attention on floods the NL organised the biggest EU exercise ever to test the assistance from Member States of the EU. In this year – according to the NRA - there was special attention for pandemics. It started a half year before the global outbreak of H5N1 made the scenario real.

In 2010 and 2011, special attention lies on the ICT failure. The Cabinet stated a Cyber Security Strategy (see http://www.govcert.nl/binaries/live/govcert/hst%3Acontent/actueel/nieuws/nationale-cyber-security-strategie-gepresenteerd/nationale-cyber-security-strategie-gepresenteerd/govcert%3AdocumentResource%5B3%5D/govcert%3Aresource) and next to a GOVCERT (see www.govcert.nl) a special centre (public –private) will be raised.

These developments are steered by a juridical base and for all governmental levels.

The new Water law is for instance based on three layers namely prevention, spatial planning and crisis management. Here is a direct link with the EU Flood directive. (see http://www.helpdeskwater.nl/algemene-onderdelen/serviceblok/english/)

Next to these special actions - since a long time – there is special attention to risks with hazmats with its juridical base in the EU SEVESO II directive. This topic is part of our NRA. In addition, other EU directives and the implementation of them – like EPCIP - are fitting in the efforts to reach a more resilient and safer society in the Netherlands.

Special attention (after 9/11) is paid to counterterrorism with its alert-system. (see http://english.nctb.nl/themes/Counterterrorism_Alert_System/)

The activities are reported frequently to Parliament (only in Dutch). See as example http://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten-en-publicaties/kamerstukken/2009/06/08/voortgangsbrief-nationale-veiligheid-2009.html with the National Risk Assessment Diagram.
Norway

National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
(‘Samvirkeområdet natur’)

**Date of creation:** 1 September 2011

**Website:** www.dsb.no

**Contact Person:** Mr. Erling KVERNEVIK (National Platform coordinator)
Mr. Dag Olav HOGVOLD (National Focal Point)

**Email:** Erling.kvernevik@dsb.no, Dag.hogvold@dsb.no

### History

Norway established its national platform for disaster risk reduction (Samvirkeområdet natur) 1 September 2011. It is set up as an authority network of governmental agencies and other stakeholders focusing on natural hazards (geological and hydro-meteorological).

The national risk assessment concluded that extreme weather and landslides are among the hazards most likely to affect Norway, and that they can have severe consequences. The country has also recently experienced serious events of floods, storm surges and forest fires. The Arctic climate in the north gives an extra dimension to present hazards, which may increase with climate change.

### Structure

The following bodies are represented in the national platform:

- The County Governor of Møre og Romsdal
- The County Governor of Oppland
- The County Governor of Troms
- The Climate and Pollution Agency (KLIF)
- Directorate for Civil Protection and Emergency Planning (DSB)
- Directorate for Cultural Heritage
- Geological Survey of Norway (NGU)
- National Office of Building Technology and Administration
- Norwegian Agricultural Authority
- The Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
- The Norwegian Coastal Administration
- Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management
- Norwegian Mapping Authority
- Norwegian National Rail Administration
- The Norwegian Meteorological Institute
- Norwegian Public Roads Administration
- Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE)
Budget

The Platform has currently no specific budget, and activities are financed by DSB as well as by other members of the Platform.

Aims

The national platform will provide a forum for better coordination and information exchange between different sectors and different governmental levels. Disaster risk reduction in Norway is organized in accordance with the principles of responsibility, similarity, and subsidiarity. According to these principles, disaster risk reduction is integrated into all levels of planning and in all sectors. The municipal level has a key role in implementing disaster risk reduction policies, as they have the main responsibility for emergency preparedness as well as prevention through land use planning.

A steering group of director generals (or equivalent) meets once a year to define main priorities for the national platform. A network group of government authorities meets twice a year. The network group is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the platform and for information exchange with the participating agencies.

The national platform is coordinated by the Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB), which also has the secretariat for the Norwegian Climate Adaptation Programme. The platform is organized in close affiliation with the climate adaptation programme.

Activities

A mandate for the national platform was decided at the first Steering Group meeting on 15 October 2011. It is based on the priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action, and includes climate change adaptation. The platform is expected to further define activities relevant for strengthening cooperation within the priorities of the mandate.
Poland

Institute of Meteorology and Water Management

Date of creation: 2009
Website: http://www.imgw.pl/
Contact Person: Mr. Tomasz WALCZYKIEWICZ
Email: Tomasz.Walczykiewicz@imgw.pl; tomek@ists.pl

History

Polish IDNDR (International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) Committee was created in 1991 by the decision of the Minister of Environmental Protection, Natural Resources and Forestry and was established in the Institute of Meteorology and Water Management in Warsaw. The Institute of Meteorology and Water Management (polish acronym: IMGW) is a research-development unit created on the basis of the decree no. 338/72 issued by the Council of Ministers on 30 December 1972 on merging the State Hydrological and Meteorological Institute with the Institute of Water Management.

Polish National Platform for DRR as a continuation of former Committee apart from continuity of activity was formal established in 2009 by official notification from Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the ISDR Secretariat in Geneva.

Structure

Within the structure of the Polish National Platform for DRR the following bodies are represented:

1. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2. Ministry of Environment
3. Governmental Security Centre
4. Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration
5. Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
6. Institute of Meteorology and Water Management
7. Military University of Technology
8. Polish Geological Institute
9. Polish Committee of Geo-technique
10. Institute of Geophysics Polish Academy of Science
11. The Main School of Fire Service
12. Inspection of Environmental Protection
13. Polish Red Cross
14. National Insurance Service
Budget

Polish National Platform for DRR is a non-governmental organization. Currently the Platform has not specific budget, activities are financed by IMGW budget as well as by other member of the Platform.

Aims

Polish National Platform for DRR actively participates in common initiatives concerning:

- creation of research programs connected with protection systems;
- sharing experience in the field of flood protection;
- training on contemporary problems of extreme environmental threats;
- early warning systems;
- education and information systems on unusual threats.

The detailed areas of activity include:

Strategic priorities which are as follows:

- forecasting dangerous events,
- carrying out and implementation of research works in the scope of natural threats (prevention, preparedness, response, recovery),
- preparation of land-use plans including high risk areas;
- public education;
- information and communication systems,
- risk assessment and methods of hazard effects reduction,

And:

DRR system improvement including

- organizational, operational and legal,
- economic and financial,
- social and sociological protection of population ,
- coordination and cooperation of governments, organizations and people’s activities in extreme situations.

Activities

The representatives of Polish Committee participate in meetings with lectures and reports.

Special reports were prepared for:

- the Second International Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2005,
- the Second International Conference on Early Warning Bonn 2004
- the Third International Conference Bonn 2006.

Special attention was focused on Central European Disaster Prevention Forum Platform meetings including organization of two meeting is Poland (Warsaw and Cracow).

The Committee initialized:

- research programs regarding risk of natural disasters,
- publications regarding risk analysis,
- monographs about great flood event in 1997,
- schools and conferences on natural and technological disasters.
Examples of other activities are listed below.

**Education at schools**

Preparation of the educational materials for teachers for use during lessons at school – with general objective – how to prepare for flood - basic information and tests for children, title: How to cope with flood – didactic materials for teachers; IMGW 2003

**Education for media**

The handbook “Collaboration with media” - IMGW 2003 – publication for journalists entitled “Natural hazards” - general idea of this publication – how to use “user friendly” definitions in information provided to the public and general overview of IMGW activities as NMHS

**Schools organized by IMGW each year**

- on disaster risk management with wide participation of the crisis management centers, research units, fire departments,
- on water management issues with wide participation for water administration bodies and research units.

**Center for Hydrological and Meteorological Education in IMGW**

Center was created in 2006. Main task is to provide workshops and lectures for administration and other entities in hydrology, meteorology, water management issues, data base and GIS Solutions (for example flood hazard and flood risk maps), crisis management and public participation.

Participation is free of charge, financing is provided by National Fund for Environment and Water Management.

**Office for Local Government Collaboration in IMGW**

Office was created within IMGW structure in 2004.

The main tasks of the Office are:

- Improvement of collaboration between the Polish NMHS (IMGW) and local authorities on the flooding issues
- Organizing series of meetings between IMGW and local governments with the aim to exchanging experiences
- Collaborating with other IMGW organizational units in preparing informational materials as well as in line of Institute services and products attractive to local governments
- Local warning systems creation and improvement.
Portugal

National Authority for Civil Protection

Date of creation: 2011
Website: http://www.prociv.pt
Contact Person: Mr. Jose OLIVEIRA
Email: jose.oliveira@prociv.pt

History

Portugal subscribed to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) in 2005 and has taken, since then, concrete steps to integrate and streamline Disaster Risk Reduction (DDR) into national development strategies, recognizing the importance of DDR for the promotion of sustainable economic growth and progress. Also in humanitarian aid policies DDR has been increasingly included, especially within bilateral cooperation established in this regard with African Portuguese speaking countries.

The need for an increased coordination among the relevant stakeholders led Portugal to create an institutional basis for the already existing informal settings and arrangements to promote DDR. The establishment of the Portuguese National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, in May 2010, was a key issue towards better coordination of prevention, preparedness, and response activities.

Structure

The Platform, created under the auspices of the National Authority for Civil Protection, is chaired by the Minister for Internal Affairs and composed by:

- Delegates of the Ministries responsible for the areas of: Defence; Justice; Economy, Transports and Communications; Public Works; Agriculture and Forests, Environment; Social Security; Health; Education and Scientific Research;
- The President of the National Authority for Civil Protection;
- Representatives of the:
  - National Association of Portuguese Municipalities;
  - National Association of Portuguese Parishes;
  - General Staff of the Armed Forces;
  - National Guard;
  - Public Security Police;
  - Association of Professional Fire-fighters;
  - League of Portuguese Fire-fighters (organisation representing the associations of Volunteer Fire-fighters);
  - Judiciary Police;
  - Security Coordination Office;
  - Maritime and Aeronautical Authorities;
  - National Institute for Medical Emergency;
  - Madeira and the Azores Regional Governments.
Budget

The Platform has no specific budget assigned. The activities developed are financed by the budgets of the Ministries, agencies and other members of the Platform.

Aims

The Platform is a co-ordination mechanism to facilitate the integration of DDR into prevention, preparedness and response policies and programmes, aiming at reducing the risk, preventing and mitigating the consequences caused by natural disasters and increasing safety both of the population and of the environment and heritage.

By promoting the co-ordination and cooperation between the stakeholders involved in DDR, such as authorities, public services, the private sector, research institutions and NGO's, the Platform aims at improving the capabilities and enabling the civil society to mitigate losses produced by disasters, whilst raising the awareness towards risk and disaster management, also promoting the co-ordination between the national and local levels.

Activities

The Portuguese National Platform for Disaster Reduction approved in 23 February 2012 the following activities for the triennium 2012 – 2014:

1. Organize an annual contest for municipalities in order to distinguish good practices regarding risk reduction.
2. Increase the application of scientific research issues to the civil protection system needs.
3. Promote closer cooperation with professional orders (engineers, architects, nurses, etc.) and associations in order to include civil protection subjects in the curricula of university degrees.
4. Improve non-university curricula in the field of DDR.
5. Promote training of teachers in the area of civil protection, accrediting these actions along with the Ministry of Education. Prepare manuals to support training.
6. Organize a national drawing contest for the first cycle of education, regarding DRR. For the other levels of education a contest to create a logo for the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is in progress.
7. Increase the safety of health facilities and schools in Portugal, raising awareness on the entities responsible for prevention, preparedness and response of these facilities.
8. Create first intervention teams in old urban centres for prevention and first response.
9. Create groups of volunteers, in partnership with Professional Orders of Nurses, Psychologists, Engineers, Architects and the Association of Technical Engineers.
10. Establish a National Network for Civil Protection Communicators

Activities 1, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 contribute to increase risk reduction at local level. For the time being, activity number 4 is concluded. All the others are under way.

In addition to these activities, the national level is supporting the local level in increasing disaster risk reduction measures by developing several activities:
a) All municipalities have civil protection emergency plans that are being reviewed according to the specific legislation issued in 2008.

b) Special emergency plans for specific risks have been developed, which include the municipalities that can be affected by these risks, e.g. earthquakes and tsunamis, floods and forest fires.

c) Internal and external emergency plans for Seveso industries, according to legislation which transposes the Seveso Directive into the national legal framework. The Seveso industries external emergency plans refer to the municipalities where the industries are located.

d) Operator security plans for critical infrastructures, according to legislation which transposes into the national legal framework the Directive for the Protection of European Critical Infrastructures. External safety and security plans for these critical infrastructures will be developed soon, involving the municipalities where critical infrastructures are located.

e) Spatial planning considers risks affecting municipalities and regions in order to organise construction and land use, avoiding increased vulnerabilities in the territory (also under appropriate national legislation).

f) Exercises at national and local level are regularly undertaken in order to test emergency plans. In addition, under the national Fire Safety Regulation, special attention is given to high risk buildings such as schools, health facilities, hotels and residences for elderly people, where an exercise takes place once a year with the involvement of local authorities and civil protection agents.

g) Concerning information and knowledge supply and sharing, useful for the municipalities to develop their work, several instruments can be referred such as: (i) the Emergency Planning Information System (http://planos.prociv.pt); (ii) Technical Guidebooks on risk analysis and emergency planning (http://www.prociv.pt/Pages/detalhe4.aspx?iditem=58); (iii) risk maps delivered to the municipalities affected by each considered risk; (iv) results of scientific studies developed with the scientific community, e.g. the study of seismic and tsunami risk involving the municipalities of Lisbon Metropolitan Area and the Algarve, (http://www.prociv.pt/Documents/PEERS_AML_CL.pdf;http://www.prociv.pt/Documents/ERSTA_ANPC.pdf); (v) data on natural and technological accidents occurred (inventories).

h) More than 500 civil protection clubs were created in schools all over the country for children between 6 and 10 years old.

At local level, a relevant work is being developed, especially by the four RESILIENT CITIES in Portugal (that joined the Campaign “Making Cities Resilient”): Lisbon, Amadora, Cascais and Funchal.

Bringing together public authorities, private stakeholders, research institutions, social and cultural local organisations, as well as volunteer groups of citizens, municipalities set up a significant range of activities, among others:

- Support to local entities wanting to elaborate their emergency plans;
- Organise information and educational initiatives addressing DDR and training exercises for different target groups (children, elderly people, disabled people, municipality workers, general public e.g. in shopping centres);
- Information on DDR issues and self-protection measures published on brochures, DVD, local journals, on Facebook and Youtube;
- Promote scientific local studies on risks affecting the municipality;
- Promote a “culture of safety and prevention” in schools, in the family and the local community. The “School Safety Plans”, the “Family Emergency Plan” and “Local Emergency Plan, preparing local communities on how to perform in emergency situations”, this one targeted at Parish Councils, are...
good examples of guides published by some of the Resilient Cities to raise awareness towards risk and on how to be prepared to face a disaster.

It is intended to continue promoting the application of new cities to the RESILIENT CITIES Campaign.
**Russian Federation**

**National Platform Focal Point:** Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM)

**Date of creation:** 2003

**Website:** http://mchs.gov.ru/en/

**Contact:** Mr. Yuri V. BRAZHNIKOV

**Email:** dmd@mchs.gov.ru; kakusha@mchs.gov.ru

### History

EMERCOM was set up by decree of the President of the Russian Federation on 10 January 1994. In fact, the Ministry came into existence on 27 December 1990 when the Russian Rescue Corps was established. Its task was to ensure prompt and effective actions when emergencies arise. In 1995, two federal laws were enforced “On Protection of Population and Territories from Natural and Man-Made Emergencies” and “On Emergency and Rescue Services and Status of Rescuers”. They laid down the foundation of the government policy and administrative and legal norms in the realm of population protection, on the one hand, and rescuers, on the other hand.

In accordance with UN General Assemblies Resolutions and recommendations on the expediency to continue the policy of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Risk Reduction the Russian Federation has developed several measures on realization of International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction.

These measures have resulted in the creation of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of the Russian Federation, which is consisted now from several governmental and public formations.

### Structure

The core of the Platform is the Ministry of Russian Federation for Civil Defense, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM of Russia). EMERCOM was set up by decree of the President of the Russian Federation on 10 January 1994. In fact, the Ministry came into existence on 27 December 1990 when the Russian Rescue Corps was established. Its task was to ensure prompt and effective actions when emergencies arise. In 1995, two federal laws were enforced “On Protection of Population and Territories from Natural and Man-Made Emergencies” and “On Emergency and Rescue Services and Status of Rescuers”. They laid down the foundation of the government policy and administrative and legal norms in the realm of population protection, on the one hand, and rescuers, on the other hand.

Another important element of the Platform is the Governmental Commission for Prevention and Elimination of Emergencies and for Ensuring of Fire Safety. The Commission was created in 2003 in accordance with the Decree of the Russian Government. It is the coordinating body for provision of joint actions of the executive power bodies, state and other organizations during realization of common state policy in the field of prevention and elimination of emergencies of natural and technological characters. The Commission is working in interaction with the federal executive power bodies, local management...
bodies, involved organizations and public associations, and with respective international and intergovernmental organizations.

Chairman of the Commission is Minister of Russian Federation for Civil Defense, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM of Russia).

Present representatives of the following executive power bodies are members of the Commission:

**Ministries of:**

- Internal Affairs;
- Transport;
- Agriculture;
- Economic Development and Trade;
- Education and Science;
- Regional Development;
- Information Technologies and Communication;
- Industry and Energy.

**Federal Agencies:**

- on Nuclear Energy;
- of Communication;
- of Forestry;
- of Navy and Inland Water Transport;
- on Education
- on Science and Innovations;
- on State Reserves;
- on Health and Social Development;
- on Special Construction;
- on the Use of the Interior of the Earth;
- on Railway Transport;
- on Technical Regulations and Metrology;
- on Water Resources;
- on Air Transport;
- on Building and Housing and Communal Services.

**Federal Services:**

- on Intellectual Property, Patents and Trade Marks;
- on Ecological, Technical and Nuclear Inspectorate;
- on Labour and Employment;
- on Hydrometeorology and Monitoring of Environment;
- on Inspectorate in the Field of Protection of Consumers Rights;
- on Inspectorate in the Field of Transport.

Meetings of the Commission are conducted on necessity but it is obligatory to have one meeting in three months.

In order to cooperate with international intergovernmental and Russian public organizations and religious faiths and also for the attraction of communities to the realization of the state policy in the
field of disaster prevention, protection of population in case of emergencies of natural or technical
characters the Public Council was established in 2006. The Public Council consists of people who are
well-known in the country and who represent the interests of various strata of society – in total – 31
persons. Among the members of the Public Council it is possible to mention: President of the Journalists
Union Mr. Gusev P. – Chairman of the Public Council; Honoured Artist of Russia Mr. Lestshenko L;
Chairman of Russian Red Cross Mrs. Lukutsova R.; Chairman of Russia Independent Ecological
Inspectorate Mr. Anikeev V.; Chairman of Russian Alpinists Federation Mr. Volkov A.; General Director
of the Insuring Company “INGOSTRAKH” Mr. Grigoriev A.; Chairman of All-Russia Society Mr. Gruzd S.;
Art Director of Moscow Theater of Miniatures Mr. Zvanetsky m.; Rector of Moscow University Mr.
Sadovnichii V.; Archpriest of Moscow Patriarchy Dmitry.

The Council has four commissions:

- Commission on the public expertise of projects of federal laws;
- Commission on realization of measures of legal and social protection of active and retired
  personnel of EMERCOM of Russia;
- Commission on cooperation with other public and religious organization;
- Commission on law and order.

Activities

Topics of Commission meetings in 2007-2008 were: “Readiness of Housing and Communal Services for
Autumn – Winter Period”; “Provision of Fire Safety in Schools and Buildings with People of Restricted
Mobility (hospitals, old people’s home etc.”); “Protection of Forests from Fire”; “Organization of Joint
Exercises on the Response to Emergencies”.
Serbia

Sector for Emergency Management
Ministry of Interior

Website: http://svs.mup.gov.rs/

Date of creation: 24 January 2013

Contact Person: Mr. Predrag MARIC, Assistant Minister and Head of Sector for Emergency Management

E-mail: predrag.maric@mup.gov.rs, ivan.baras@mup.gov.rs

History

The Serbian Government adopted the Decision on appointment of the members of the National Emergency Management Headquarters (NEMH) on its regular session held on 12 May 2011. The inaugural session of NEMH was held on 3 June 2011. The Serbian Government has proclaimed the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction on 24 January 2013. NEMH is acting as the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the international community.

Structure

In accordance with the Law on Emergency Situations, NEMH is an operational and expert governmental body formed with the aim of coordinating and managing protection and rescue activities in emergencies as well as mainstreaming disaster risk reduction policies.

The Chairperson of NEMH is the Minister of Interior (as the Commander) and the Head of Sector for Emergency Management is the Head of National Emergency Management Headquarters. Other members of NEMH are the following:

- ministers responsible for defence; labour, employment and social policy; regional development and local self-government; justice and public administration; health; agriculture, forestry and water management; energy, development and environmental protection; foreign and internal trade and telecommunication; finance and economy; foreign affairs; transport; construction and urbanism; culture and information; natural resources, mining and spatial planning;
- experts from the Ministry of Interior, Serbian Army, Serbian Red Cross and Serbian Mountain Rescue Service;
- directors of the special governmental organisations responsible for seismology, hydrology, meteorology, water management, forestry;
- directors of public companies, business associations and other legal entities, media, humanitarian organisations, citizen associations and other institutions which, based on their portfolio, may be part of protection and rescue system in case of emergency.
NEMH, among other, shall:

- coordinate the activities of all the participants in the protection and rescue system in terms of organization, planning, preparations and implementation of measures and activities related to disaster risk prevention and reduction, protection and rescue, including the exchange of information, knowledge and technologies;
- coordinate activities and measures included in the Serbian National Strategy for Protection and Rescue in Emergencies;
- deliberate and give its opinion on the Draft Long-term Plan of Protection and Rescue System Development;
- monitor and coordinate the implementation of measures included in the Long-term Plan of Protection and Rescue System Development;
- deliberate and give its opinion on the Draft Natural and Other Hazards Vulnerability Assessment of the Republic of Serbia;
- deliberate and give its opinion on the Draft National Emergency Protection and Rescue Plan of the Republic of Serbia;
- take care of regular informing and notifying the population about the risks and threats as well as about the measures aimed at disaster risk reduction;
- cooperate with agencies in charge of protection and rescue in emergencies in neighbouring countries.

NEMH meets three to four times a year on regular sessions, and in case of need, the extraordinary sessions are organised. The activities of NEMH are financed through the budget of the Republic of Serbia and resources of the authorities which are the members of NEMH.

Aims

Coordination of the activities in the field of emergency management on national, regional and local level, as well as implementation of disaster risk reduction concept into national and local policies, sustainable development strategies, and protection and rescue strategies.

Activities

- In 2009, the Serbian National Assembly adopted the umbrella law, the Law on Emergency Situations which implies the adoption of the set of bylaw acts which define in details the field of emergency management. New legal framework provided the basis for reorganisation of the protection and rescue system and further development of the integrated emergency management system.
- In 2011, the National Assembly adopted the Law on Amendments to the Law on Emergency Situations which paves the way for the implementation of disaster risk reduction concept.
- In 2011, the National Assembly adopted the National Strategy in the field of emergency management and disaster risk reduction. The Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy is being drafted.
- In 2012, the Ministry of Interior adopted the Guideline on the methodology for vulnerability assessment and emergency plans development. The EU guidelines were consulted in drafting this document.
- During 2012 NEMH held 2 regular and 6 extraordinary sessions
Slovenia

Council of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Protection Against Natural and Other Disasters (National Platform for DRR)

Secretariat of the Council is the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief – ACPDR (Uprava RS zaščito in reševanje – URSZR)

**Date of creation:** 24 July 2014

**Website:** www.sos112.si www.urszr.si

**Contact person:** ACPDR (+386) 1 471 33 22

**E-mail:** urszr@urszr.si

**History**

In July 2014, the Council of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Protection against Natural and other Disasters was established as an advisory body to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on protection against natural and man-made disasters. The Council shall act as a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

**Structure**

Members of the Platform are representatives of key ministries and government offices, nongovernmental organisations and associations as well as expert, scientific and research institutions, representatives of local communities and national media:

**Governmental bodies:**
- Ministries (environment, interior, infrastructure, health, foreign affairs, education, culture, defence)
- Office of the Prime Minister of the RS
- National Civil Protection Commander

**NGOs:**
- Fire Fighting Association of Slovenia
- Slovenian Red Cross
- CIPRA Slovenia - Association for the Protection of the Alps
- Slovenian Electronic Communication Society SIKOM

**Academic and research institutions:**
- Slovenian Rectors Conference
- Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts

**Local level:**
- Associations of Municipalities of Slovenia
Private sector:
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia

Media:
- RTV Slovenia

Budget
Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief (ACPDR) - along with other authorities/governmental bodies in the Platform, covers the majority of cost.

Aims
Its aim is to facilitate dialogue between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the civil society as well as non-governmental, scientific and research, and other organizations and associations on disaster risk reduction, building disaster resilience and sustainable development in line with the objectives of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Activities
The main activities of the Council/Platform are:
- To take an active part in the development and implementation of the National Programme on Protection Against Natural and Other Disasters.
- To facilitate cooperation of stakeholders in all phases of disaster management cycle – prevention, preparedness, response to disasters, and recovery.
- To participate in the legislative process.
- To contribute to awareness-raising on the importance of prevention activities and promote resilience to disasters.
- To cooperate with other relevant bodies from related fields and strive towards synergy.
- To organize public consultations on disaster management.
- To participate in the relevant international activities and cooperate with platforms of other countries.
Spain

National Commission for Civil Protection
(Comisión Nacional de Protección Civil)

Date of creation: September 2002
Website: http://www.proteccioncivil.org/
Contact person: Mr. Juan Antonio Diaz CRUZ
E-mail: secdg@procivil.mir.es

History

In October 1990 the National Commission for Civil Protection was attributed the function of the Spanish Committee for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) (Royal Decree 1301/1990). In September 2002, two years after the phasing-out of the IDNDR, the Commission was nominated as the Spanish Committee for the ISDR (Royal Decree 967/2002).

Structure

The National Commission for Civil Protection is an inter-ministerial institution dependent on the Ministry of Interior. It consists of the following members:

- Chair: Minister of Interior
- Vice Chair: Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior
- Secretary: Director-General of Civil Protection

Other members are representatives of the following authorities and political subdivisions:

- Economy (1)
- Science and Technology (1)
- Public Works (1)
- Education (1)
- Culture and Sports (1)
- Labour and Social Affairs (1)
- Agriculture, Fisheries and Alimentation (1)
- Public Administration (1)
- Health and Consumers (1)
- Treasury (1)
- Office of Prime Minister (1)
- General Secretary of the Prime Minister (1)
- Ministry of Environment (2)
- Ministry of Defense (2)
- Ministry of Interior (4)
As indicated by the list of members, most departments of the central government are involved. Due to the participation of representatives from the different political subdivisions, different levels of administration can be reached (central, regional, local).

The Directorate General for Civil Protection serves as the technical secretariat of the commission and as such guarantees for the adequate implementation of adopted agreements, the preparation and distribution of documents, and the necessary coordination between the different technical commissions and working groups. The Directorate disposes of a National Civil Protection School (ENPC), which serves as the national academy for civil protection in Spain. The ENPC offers practical and theoretical training courses and workshops.

**Aims**

Be informed about criteria, directives and initiatives of the public administrations related to disaster risk prevention and mitigation.

Promote initiatives from the different public administrations and the private sector to implement actions, which contribute to the improvement of disaster risk prevention and mitigation.

Promote the development of a preventive social culture related to disaster risk.

Be informed about and disseminate information on the programmes, reports, directives and recommendations issued by the institutions of the UN or ISDR.

Promote the participation and coordination of different public administrations, private entities and specialized personnel in international cooperation projects related to disaster prevention and mitigation.

**Activities**

Realization of studies with respect to risk analysis as well as pilot projects with preventive character, which support disaster and emergency prevention planning.

- Preparation of construction norms and guidelines for behaviour aiming at prevention, civil protection and emergency planning with respect to different hazards (heat/cold waves, thunder storms, droughts, inundations, storms, earth/seaquakes, volcanic eruptions).
- Risk mapping
- Development of studies and programmes with respect to information of the population, promotion of self-protection capabilities, support of civil participation in civil protection activities and development of school education programmes regarding disaster prevention.
- Implementation of theoretical and practical training courses and workshops related to disaster risk prevention, risk analysis and emergency management (via ENPC).
- Development of a simulation programme for earthquake impacts on a municipal basis (SES 2002) in cooperation with the National Geographic Institute.
- Implementation of an education programme for forest fire prevention focusing on young people at school age (component of the worldwide disaster prevention campaign of ISDR “Disaster Reduction begins at school 2006-2007”) including online material for professional training of teachers.
Sweden

Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)

**Website:** www.msb.se/nationalplatform

**Date of creation:** September 2007

**Contact Person:** Ms. Mette LINDAHL OLSSON, Head of Natural Hazards and Critical Infrastructure Section, telephone + 46 10 240 5127

**E-mail:** mette.lindahl-olsson@msb.se

**Secretariat:**

National coordinator: Mr. Åke SVENSSON,

Natural Hazards and Critical Infrastructure Section, MSB, telephone +46 10 240 5287,

**E-mail:** ake.svensson@msb.se

International coordinator: Ms. Janet EDWARDS, Natural Hazards and Critical Infrastructure Section, telephone + 46 10 240 5108

**E-mail:** janet.edwards@msb.se

**History**

The Swedish National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was established in September 2007 by a government commission to the Swedish Rescue Services Agency. Today, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, MSB (established in 2009) is the HFA Focal Point and responsible, for assuring collaboration with other competent authorities and organizations in the Swedish National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The platform’s purpose is to work towards preventing and mitigating the consequences of natural disasters in line with Sweden’s commitment to the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action.

**Structure**

The national platform’s organisation consists of:

- **The Steering Group**, responsible for the focus and overall management of the work. It is made up of the Directors General (or equivalent) among the platform members. The Steering Group meets at least once a year.

- **The Authorities’ Network**, responsible for carrying out the on-going work within the platform. The network consists of one designated representative per member for which deputies have also been designated. The network meets at least four times per year.

- **The HFA Focal Point and the Secretariat at MSB**, responsible for international contacts, coordination, communication, reporting and administration of the platform’s work.
The following authorities are represented on the platform:

Sweden’s National Platform consists of members from 19 authorities and organisations. These are MSB (Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency); Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, the County Administrative Boards; Geological Survey of Sweden; Lantmäteriet (the Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authority); Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions; Swedish Board of Agriculture, Swedish Energy Agency; Swedish Environmental Protection Agency; Swedish Forest Agency; Swedish Geotechnical Institute; Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency; Svenska Kraftnät (the Swedish National Grid); Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute; Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare; Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning; Swedish National Heritage Board; Swedish National Food Agency; and the Swedish Transport Administration.

Participation in the platform is voluntary and is mainly financed by each member. Working groups can be started for the purpose of accomplishing defined tasks or activities. Collaboration with other actors in society takes place primarily through reference groups which may be established as needed.

Budget

MSB finances the platform secretariat and the costs resulting from serving as a HFA focal point. MSB has allocated approximately 1.2 million SEK yearly for the national platform covering costs for studies, reports, brochures, national meetings and seminars, travel and per diem for international meetings attended by the HFA focal point and other staff of the secretariat. The other authorities in the platform contribute with their time when they participate in meetings and working groups and with extra financing for studies of particular interest to them.

Aims

The purpose of Sweden’s platform is to improve the coordination of efforts to prevent and mitigate the consequences of natural hazards and disasters in Sweden. The coordination through the platform and the actions taken by the members, are intended to make Sweden less vulnerable to natural events and to increase society’s capacity to manage disasters. The platform is an arena for collaboration and through its activities supports members and their target groups at the central, regional and local levels with data for the work of preventing natural hazards and disasters and of adapting Sweden to a changing climate.

The objective of the platform’s work is for the members, and their target groups at the central, regional and local levels, to gain:

- increased awareness of other actors’ activities in this area
- better coordination for the development and dissemination of knowledge, methods and data in this area,
- more efficient use of resources in this area,
- greater opportunities for national and international collaboration, and
- tangible benefits of a strong national network.

Activities

The activities of the platform are an important part of the Action Plan for the Swedish National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. The plan is reviewed every year. The activities are agreed upon by members...
of the platform. Discussions about activities and how they can be implemented to strengthen the collaboration between the platform members.

Examples of activities conducted by the Swedish National Platform for DRR are:

- Undertake studies such as how the new elevation database can be used for DRR or to assess the impact of climate and environmental change on cultural heritage.
- Promote the development of a Geotechnical Sector Portal
- Undertake evaluations such as the deficiencies and knowledge gaps in the national DRR work
- Produce reports on topics of interest to the platform such as the legal responsibilities for DRR at the local, regional and central levels,
- Arrange seminars and meetings on particular DRR topics.
- Produce handbooks on best practices in Sweden such as “Managing the problems of flooding – inspiring examples (MSB238)”.
Switzerland

National Platform for Natural Hazards
(Nationale Plattform Naturgefahren, PLANAT)

Date of creation: 1997
Website: http://www.planat.ch
Contact persons:
Ms. Wanda WICKI
E-mail: wanda.wicki@bafu.admin.ch
Mr. Markus ZIMMERMANN
E-mail: markus.zimmermann@ndr.ch

History

Natural hazards are a part of Swiss habitat. In 1997, the Swiss Federal Council founded the national platform PLANAT, with the aim to improve prevention.

Structure

The national platform for natural hazards PLANAT is a governmental structure. It consists of twenty specialists coming from all regions of Switzerland.

1. Federal Central Government
2. Cantons
3. research community
4. professional associations
5. private sector
6. insurance companies

The Federal Council appoints them for periods of four years. The next elections will be held at the end of 2015.

The president is nominated by the members and elected by the Swiss Federal Council. The members elect a committee constituted by 6 persons, which prepares the plenary sessions of the commission. It is supported and backed by a secretariat with 2 half time employees, based in Bern.

Temporary working groups are established on project basis. The size of the groups varies between 2 and 5 members. As per today two working groups are active on the topics “Information and Communication” and “International”.

Overview of National Platforms in Europe
Aims

The commission wants to avoid a duplication of efforts in the area of protection against natural hazards and make better use of existing synergies. PLANAT’s opinion is that protection against natural hazards may not be limited any longer to the protection of individual values within some limited scopes of responsibility against certain kinds of hazards. Therefore a paradigm change from the protection against hazards to a new risk culture is needed.

Activities

Motivated by a motion, which was filed in the federal parliament by the former Councilor of States Hans Danioth in 1999, the Swiss Federal Council (Swiss government) commissioned PLANAT to develop a comprehensive and interlinked strategy to improve the protection against natural hazards. It also intends to ensure comparable security standards throughout Switzerland based on extensive risk management. The aim is to protect people and their livelihood as well as important material assets.

Up to now, PLANAT has completed the first step of developing a comprehensive and interlinked strategy for improved protection against natural hazards, and the second step of analysing the current situation and proposing an action plan with measures. The third step (action plan 2005-2008) as well as the fourth step (action plan 2009-2011) will include implementing these measures.


The third step constitutes the present activities of PLANAT until 2008 and will include the implementation of the concrete measures of the action plan. The strategy according to this action plans fits to the main strategic goals of the Hyogo Framework for action 2005 – 2015.

The focal points of the action plan for the 2005 - 2008 stage are as follows:

Further development of the “risk policy for natural hazards”

There are currently a series of different methods and tools for dealing with risks from natural hazard. The term “risk policy” means a universally valid model for dealing with security problems. It was developed in the technical field and should now find reinforced entrance in the field of natural hazards as “risk policy for natural hazards”.

Integrated risk management recognizes risks of natural hazards based on this risk policy, allowing risk evaluation and reduction using the optimized combination of technical, economic, social and ecological protection measures. Specific guidelines as well as training and further training will help consolidate integrated risk management. The “risk policy for natural hazards” will be further developed by specific studies.

Risk dialogue and responsibilities:

A wide realized dialogue should strengthen a risk culture of risk awareness supported by all players. Also responsibilities, structure and schedule of organizations on risk aware management of natural hazards should be optimized. Not regulated responsibilities for certain fields of natural hazards (p. ex. extreme temperatures, storm) should be clarified.

The development of a risk communication concept is one of the current projects under this focal point.
Performance measurement

In future, risks of natural hazards and invested resources for measures of protection should be systematically recorded and evaluated on an on-going basis in order to check the cost-effectiveness ratio.

A global report of these activities, divided into 15 projects, was established and given to the Federal Council at the middle of 2008.

In response to the report from PLANAT, the Federal Council decided at its meeting on 6 March 2009 to continue the work based on an action plan for 2009-2012 and to remedy existing loopholes in the principles and instruments.

The required funding, amounting to around CHF 800'000 per annum, will be made available by the federal departments involved (DETEC, DDPS, DHA, DEA, DFA) within the limits of the resources available to them.


The key elements in the action plan for the phase from 2009-2012 are as follows:

- Integrated risk management (including fixing standard protection goals, providing practical guidelines, devising a range of basic and advanced training courses, conducting a preliminary study on a pilot project).
- Adjustments and additions to principles and instruments (in particular additions and adjustments to instruments for risk analysis and evaluation, filling in gaps in knowledge, identification of ways to coordinate spatial and protection planning).
- Responsibilities and risk dialogue (in particular a review of responsibilities at federal level from the standpoint of integrated risk management, introduction of a change management process and of a broad-based risk dialogue).
- Performance measurement at a strategic level (in particular regular and systematic recording of the risks of natural hazards, special analysis of major incidents, regular and systematic recording of the resources used for protection against natural hazards, development at a strategic level of a performance measurement concept with a set of indicators).
- International capacity building in SDC partner countries, integration into the international system.
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

**Date of creation:** April 2009  
**Website:** http://www.vlada.gov.mk  
**Contact person:** Zulfi ADILI  
Director, Crisis Management Center  
**E-mail:** zulfi.adili@cuk.gov.mk

### History

The foundations of the National Platform for DRR can be traced in the national conceptual and strategic documents, most especially the *National Conception for Security and Defense* and the *National Security Strategy*, as well as the *Law on Crisis Management*; this law established the Crisis Management System, which aims to provide continuous consultations and high-level decision making, maximal coordination, timely response, efficient and appropriate utilization of available capabilities and resources in the event of a crisis, as well as timely, quality-based and real assessment of the risks and threats to the security of the country.

Being one of the 168 countries represented at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan in 2005, accepting the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters* (hereafter: HFA), the country developed a National Platform, based on the strategic goals and the priorities for action outlined in the HFA.

In December 2007, the process of establishing the National Platform began with the initial networking of stakeholders dealing with prevention and management of accidents and disasters. This networking established cooperation among all stakeholders in the country dealing with crisis management. Until March 2009, a number of cooperation memorandums were signed with all ministries, governmental agencies, municipalities, public enterprises and services, NGOs, academic institutions, universities, research centers and laboratories, as well as with the business community and religious communities. As a result, the National Laboratory Network and the National Network of Experts were launched as part of the National Platform.

The Government, on its session held on 21 April 2009, officially declared the **National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**. Therefore, a political impetus has been given, guarantying the Platform’s national ownership and leadership of the disaster risk reduction process.

Intensive efforts to attain international promotion and affirmation of the National Platform followed. Becoming the 11th European country and 56th country in the world with an established National Platform, on 17 June 2009, the National Platform was presented in Geneva at the Second Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The first session of the extended Steering Committee as a governing body of the National Platform was held on 1 July 2009, marking the start of the Platform’s institutionalization and its governing structure’s establishment process. Intensive activities and the summing up of experiences resulted in the first review, which although being planned for January 2010, was completed two months ahead on 19 November 2009. Also, the reform of the National Platform meant the establishment of the three Advisory Councils: the Legal, the Economic-Social, and the Academic-Expert Council, as a framework uniting the highest
decision-makers in the respective areas with top representatives of the academic and business communities and the NGO sector. During January-March 2010, the seven specialized platforms that constitute the National Platform were set up. On 25 April 2010, the Government established the position of a National Coordinator for Implementation of the National Platform for DRR, to coordinate and oversee the process of implementation.

On 12 November 2009, the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction was established, Sweden was Chair for 2010. Active engagement continued with the chairmanship in 2011 where the 2nd Annual EFDRR meeting took place in Skopje.

### Structure

The National Platform is organized on the following interconnected and interdependent levels:

- Political
- Administrative
- Expert
- Operative

From a territorial point of view, the National Platform is organized on national and local levels. However, when threats surpass municipal boundaries, the establishment of regional structures covering several municipalities is anticipated. This corresponds with the regional organization of other relevant governmental structures, such as the police.

Interconnecting all levels is the National Coordinator for Implementation of the NP DRR.
2.1 Political level

2.1.1 Steering Committee
On the Political, decision-making level the Government is actively engaged through the Steering Committee which is the managing body of the National Platform headed by a government-appointed minister. Other ministers, a representative of the Security and Defense Commission of the Assembly (Parliament), the National Security Adviser to the President of the Republic, the President of the Association of Local Self-Governing Units, as well as directors of the Crisis Management Center and the Rescue and Protection Directorate participate in the Committee’s work. The Steering Committee determines the direction of the National Platform’s development; it verifies the accomplishments and suggests certain operational solutions with system consequences. The Steering Committee’s authority extends to two bodies: the Council of State Secretaries and the Inspection Council.

2.1.2. Local and Regional Councils of the National Platform
On the local, municipal level, Local Councils of the National Platform are being formed to assess local risks and threats, coordinate resources and activities, organize rural and urban communities, and to cooperate with neighbouring municipalities. The Council headed by the Mayor, consists of members of the Local Council for Prevention, the president and members of the Municipal Council, the presidents of urban and rural municipal communities, as well as local representatives of the Crisis Management Center and the Rescue and Protection Directorate. It should be mentioned that the municipality, when necessary, establishes local rescue and protection HQs, and the municipality and its mayor have specific duties arising from the Law on Local Self-Government and the Law on Rescue and Protection.

Particularly important is the fact that the entire concept heeds the rural and urban communities, whose position within the National Platform is clearly defined. Namely, apart from the fact that the presidents of the rural and urban communities are members of the Local Councils of the National Platform, they are also entitled to: first, maintain regular communication with the Mayor and the Crisis Management Center (as an independent governmental agency providing administrative-expert and technical support to the National Platform); second, monitor risk conditions in the rural and urban communities that could be harmful to the life, health and property of citizens and infrastructure; third, inform and prepare citizens for prevention and their participation in response to accidents and disasters; and, finally, to organize citizens and to coordinate rural and urban community activities in the event of accidents or disasters. Understandably, implementation of the above-mentioned requires the personnel equipping, preparation and financing of the necessary activities.

When the situation exceeds municipal boundaries, close cooperation with other affected municipalities and government structures (that have their local units and offices) is crucial. For this purpose, the so-called Regional Councils of the National Platform are set up, covering several geographically close municipalities. The tasks of the are to organize risk and threat assessment when local (municipal) resources for response are depleted, to coordinate municipal resources and activities in the regional context, and to provide coordination with competent government bodies on the national level.

The Regional Councils of the National Platform are headed, for a period of six months, by one of the mayors of the municipalities included in the region (in alphabetic order of the municipalities). Other mayors, heads of local ministry units, as well as regional representatives of the Crisis Management Center and the Rescue and Protection Directorate take part in the work of the Regional Councils. Concerning the country capital Skopje, along with the regional council, the National Platform has another city council that is limited only to the municipalities which are part of Skopje.
A regional HQ is established within the Regional Council of the National Platform, which depending on the risk and threat type convenes on a regular basis and in case of need. The local and regional councils brief the municipal councils as well as the Steering Committee of the National Platform of their work.

2.2. Administrative level

2.2.1 Council of State Secretaries

The Administrative level consists of the **Council of State Secretaries**, headed by the Secretary General of the Government and is composed of state secretaries of ministries and directors of the independent governmental agencies. If necessary, the directors of bodies within ministries can also be invited to participate in the work of the Council. The task of the Council of State Secretaries is to bridge over the problems and to mark out administrative-expert decisions affecting the accident and disasters risk levels addressed by the National Platform. In that regard, nine working groups have been established composed of high ranking representatives of ministries and independent governmental agencies, whose work is coordinated by the state secretaries of competent ministries or other governmental agencies, according to their competencies and experiences in specific domains.

The effective functioning of the working groups is enhanced by a unified organizational structure involving members and deputies appointed from each institution comprising the working groups, which are headed by a coordinator or a deputy coordinator.

The working groups are as follows:

- Normative-legal harmonization;
- Finances, insurance and procurement;
- Human resources planning,
- Development and maintenance;
- Info-networking and resources registry;
- Standardization;
- Terminological unification;
- Public relations and public awareness;
- International funds access unit;
- International cooperation.

The Council of State Secretaries submits its conclusions to the Steering Committee to which it is directly accountable.

2.2.2. Inspection Council

The **Inspection Council** was set up to further effective inspectoral supervision within the framework of the National Platform. A working group for normative-legal unification in inspectoral supervision was established, with the authority to determine inspectoral services’ interoperability procedures and to review problems in the domains of personnel hiring and qualifications as well as the inspectoral services’ material-technical equipping, along with a coordinated financial framework determining support for inspectoral supervision in crisis management and rescue and protection.

The Director of the State Administrative Inspectorate is appointed the head of the working group, while its members come from the Crisis Management Center, the Radiation Safety Directorate, the State Inspectorate of Agriculture, the State Inspectorate of Environment, the Rescue and Protection Directorate and the State Construction and Urbanism Inspectorate.

The Inspection Council submits its findings to the Steering Committee, to which it is directly accountable.
2.2.3. Specialized platforms

Depending on the risk type, seven specialized platforms have been established and headed by competent ministries. Each of the platforms has its coordinative council presided by the minister in charge of the competent ministry, and each of the platforms has a number of national commissions for prevention and risk and threat management.

The following platforms have been established:

- Risks in the domain of infrastructure, coordinated by the Minister of Transport and Communications
- Health-related risks, coordinated by the Minister of Health
- Haz-Mat risks, coordinated by the Minister of Internal Affairs
- Environmental risks, coordinated by the Minister of Environment and Physical Planning
- Industrial accidents, coordinated by the Minister of Economy
- Risks in the domain of agriculture, forestry and water management, coordinated by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
- Risks in the domain of cultural heritage, coordinated by the Minister of Culture

To achieve efficient functioning of the National Platform and to satisfy normative-legal standards, the Crisis Management Center signed cooperation memorandums and agreements with all ministries, independent government agencies, municipalities, NGOs, academic and expert institutions and religious communities. These measures furthered coordination and cooperation in dealing with specific accidents, disasters, risks and threats. The signed documents clearly determine the place and role of the stakeholders in each of the platforms, as well as the goals that should be reached by the National Platform.

2.3.4 Thematic working groups

The thematic working groups represent a special part of the National Platform for DRR. They relate to issues and problems that are interdisciplinary in character and whose different aspects fall into the scope of interest of various government and non-government structures on both local and national levels, and, as such, are linked to two or more specialized platforms. These include:

- Protection of children in case of accidents & disasters
- Protection of elderly in case of accidents and disasters
- Protection of people with physical disabilities
- Working place safety in case of accidents and disasters
- Preschool institutions safety in case of accidents and disasters
- Safety of institutions for people with physical and mental disabilities
- Climate change, repercussions and adaptation
- Forestation
- State authority function in emergency and crisis situation
- Diplomatic and consular missions safety in case of accidents and disasters
- Cyber threats prevention
- Prevention and disaster management in primary and secondary school curricula
- Schools safety in case of accidents and disasters
- Hospitals safety
- Safety in penitentiary institutions in case of accidents and disasters
- Space threats – electromagnetic and other effects upon the Earth
- Resilience of local communities
- Early Warning
- Media and public awareness
• Coordination with insurance companies
• Coordination with NGO sector
• Coordination with the economic chambers and business community
• Coordination with the Trade unions and with the academic community

2.3. Expert level

The scientific - technical and expert backbone of the National Platform is composed of the academic institutions, the public and private universities and research centers and observatories.

The impressive National Laboratory Network which brought under one umbrella 174 laboratories nationwide only adds to the picture. The Advisory Councils of the National Platform consists of the Legal Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Academic and Expert Council. Furthermore the National Laboratory Network consists of the scientific institutions that are a crucial part of the National Platform. The aim of the functional integration of the laboratory resources country-wide is to provide capacity development, reliable data and expertise, supportive to prevention, mitigation as well as to provide a variety of forensics (medical, technical - technological, building and construction forensics, environmental forensics as well as telecommunication and IT system safety. Further information on the Expert Level can be found at http://www.vlada.gov.mk

2.4. Operative level

Within the Crisis Management Center, the State Operation Center functions on a central (national) level 24 hours a day, 7 days in the week through the Single Communication and Information 195 Center (soon to be replaced by the Emergency Call Service 112).

The Early Warning and Alert System is also part of the State Operation Center, and, as such, is to be thoroughly reconstructed and modernized in the implementation process of the E-112 system.

When necessary, headquarters (HQ) in the Crisis Management Center and the Rescue and Protection Directorate are formed, which, according to the National Platform concept, are to be united in a single, unified command structure. The National Platform, apart from interlinking the various government and non-government stakeholders on the national level, also has its structures on local and regional levels.

The Incident Command System (ICS) is the American solution for incident management on the operative level. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonian ICS model is still in its initial phase. ICS is a management system designed to provide effective and efficient incident management by integrating services, equipment, staff, procedures and communication within a unified command structure that is designed to provide effective and efficient incident (accident) management. It is based on a flexible organization that enables participating actors to work within a common framework. ICS participants may belong to different agencies that do not cooperate under normal circumstances.

Budget

The competent ministries and governmental agencies will execute their activities along with the budget lines allocated to them for disaster risk prevention, response and recovery activities.

Aims

The general approach to handling accident and disaster risks, regardless of whether the events are natural or man-made, is to prepare a single doctrinary position that will be used as a blueprint to mark out
specific strategies, policies and legislation. During a session held on November 19, 2009, the enlarged Steering Committee of the National Platform accepted the following:

The overall objective of the National Platform is set in the basic position for accident and disaster risk reduction:

Prevention and Early Warning are the basis for preventing in total or the disastrous consequences of natural hazards or man-made accidents, while the preparedness of each stakeholder and their capability for coordinated and rapid response are preconditions for reducing the consequences and rapid mitigation of such accidents.

Achieving this means crisis management through effective and efficient utilization of available resources and capacities, as an instrument for reduction of risk factors, identifying, assessing and monitoring risks, building a culture of safety, and strengthening disaster preparedness at all levels. Being a multi-stakeholder national mechanism, the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction serves as advocate of DRR on national and local level.

The aim is to ensure an integrated, efficient and effective approach to DRR through prevention, early warning, management and mitigation of disaster threats and post-disaster consequences, while securing functional unity of the state authority, the local self-government, the NGO sector and the academic and business communities.

Activities

The National Platform for DRR has a number of important activities in all phases of disaster risk reduction and crisis management in general. These include the developing of:

- General strategies regarding each specific risk
- Functional strategies for prevention, reaction and rehabilitation on how the general strategy will be implemented in terms of prevention, reaction and rehabilitation.
- Prevention, reaction and rehabilitation policies
- Policy implementation strategies,
- Policy implementing programmes and projects
- Legislative on prevention, reaction and rehabilitation.

In terms of methodologies, assessments, scenarios, plans and standard operational procedures, the NP DRR is entitled to develop the following:

- Risk assessment and risk consequence assessment methodologies
- Risk mapping methodologies
- Risk monitoring methodologies
- Risk and threat assessment
- Scenarios on possible transition of risks into accidents and disasters
- Preparedness, prevention and operations plans
- Rapid assessment methodology
- Operations plan
- Preparedness and prevention procedures
- Standard Operational Procedures;

Further activities of the National Platform include:

- Coordinating the multi-stakeholder collaboration for DRR;
- Bilateral and multilateral coordination
- Fostering the development of culture of safety through public awareness raising;
- Facilitating the integration of DRR into national policies, plans and programs;
- Coordinating joint efforts among stakeholders to reduce vulnerability of people;
• Information gathering, forecasting and analysis of risks and dangers;
• Providing decision makers with reliable and up-to-date data;
• Providing advice and proposing measures and activities for management of emergencies;
• Implementation of the E-112 Emergency Calls System;
• Alarming the population in the event of a emergencies;
• Conducting training for crisis management;
Turkey

Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency of Turkey (AFAD)

National Platform for Natural Hazards

Date of creation: March 2011

Website: http://www.afad.gov.tr

Contact persons: Dr. Fuat OKTAY

E-mail: fuat.oktay@afad.gov.tr

History

Studies in order to create a national platform in Turkey has been started in 2008, with a committee consisted of main actors involved in disaster management structure of Turkey. In 2009, after a restructuring period and with the establishment of Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency of Turkey (AFAD), new authority held the activities.

Structure

National Platform is a coordination and advisory group of several actors from disaster community. Platform is formed by the decision of Cabinet and chaired and managed by AFAD. Members of the platform, as of March 2011, are as follows:

Governmental Organizations:

1. Prime Ministry
2. General Staff
3. Ministry of Interior
4. Ministry of Education
5. Ministry of Environment and City Planning
6. Ministry of Health
7. Ministry of Transportation
8. Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
9. Ministry of Energy and Natural Sources
10. Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs
11. Ministry of Culture and Tourism
12. The Council of Higher Education
13. Prime Ministry, Undersecretary of Treasury (DASK)
14. Prime Ministry, State Planning Organization
15. General Command of Mapping
16. Boğaziçi University, Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute
17. Turkish National Research Council (TUBITAK)

**Non-Governmental Organizations and Professional Organizations**

1. Search and Rescue Association (AKUT)
2. Neighborhood Disaster Support Group (MAG)
3. Environment Foundation of Turkey
4. GEA Search and Rescue Group
5. Psychiatric Association of Turkey
6. Chamber of Geological Engineers
7. Chamber of Geophysical Engineers
8. Chamber of Civil Engineers

**Universities;**

1. Middle East Technical University
2. Istanbul Technical University
3. Karadeniz Technical University
4. Kocaeli University
5. Dicle University

**Local Authorities;**

1. Governorate of Istanbul
2. Governorate of Erzincan
3. Governorate of Kahramanmaraş
4. Governorate of Denizli
5. Governorate of Hatay
6. Governorate of Bingöl
7. Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality
8. Erzurum Metropolitan Municipality
9. Bursa Metropolitan Municipality
10. Municipality of Trabzon
11. Municipality of Giresun
12. Municipality of Manisa
13. Municipality of Afyonkarahisar
14. Turkish Union of Municipalities
15. Union of Governors
Overview of National Platforms in Europe

Private Sector;

1. Turkish Industrialists’ and Businessmen’s’ Association (TUSIAD)
2. The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB)
3. Turkish Contractors Association (TMB)

Media;

1. Prime Ministry, General Directorate of Press and Information
2. Turkish Association of Journalists
3. Turkish Radio and Television Cooperation (TRT)
4. Anadolu Agency

National Association;

1. Turkish Red Crescent

Budget

Budget for the meeting expenses and other events of the Platform will be covered from the budget of AFAD, expenditures for the proposed research, project and survey within the scope of the Platform will be funded by AFAD or related institutions.

Aims

The aims of the Platform are to; provide public awareness against disasters, ensure coordination and cooperation in order to maintain disaster related issues sustainable, assessment of needs, monitoring and evaluation of implementations in order to contribute to integration of disaster risk reduction policies into sustainable development plans and policies at all levels.

Activities

1. Contribute to the needs assessment studies for disaster risk reduction activities, policies, make proposals for national action plans on DRR,
2. Contribute to the programming, monitoring and evaluation of DRR studies at national level,
3. Ensure more effective and multi stakeholder studies and activities among the various partner organizations working in the field of DRR and make available more effective and rationalist use of sources,
4. To direct the in line organizations on the following topics;
   a. Integration of development plans and policies into DRR targets,
   b. Identification, implementation, monitoring and definition of priorities of hazard and risk studies by supplying consultancy,
5. Develop strategies and policies in order to achieve DRR and support the existing ones,
6. Maintain the implementation and monitoring of Hyogo Framework of Action Strategy Plan in the country,
7. Support the activities in order to increase the awareness of public to disaster risk reduction,
8. Documentation of all lessons learnt in the field of DRR and share and exchange of information with national and international stakeholders,
9. Facilitate and support establishment of mirrored/similar mechanisms at the county and local self-government levels regarding disaster risk reduction.
United Kingdom

United Kingdom HFA Focal Point
The Civil Contingencies Secretariat (CCS)
Date of creation: July 2001
Website: www.ukresilience.info
Contact: Steven Barnes
Email: Steven.Barnes@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

History

The Civil Contingencies Secretariat was established in July 2001 after serious flooding, the Fuel Crisis in 2000, and the Foot-and-Mouth Disease outbreak in 2001, exposed deficiencies in the UK’s civil protection arrangements. Since then, CCS has worked to improve the UK's preparedness for, and response to, emergencies.

Structure

The Civil Contingencies Secretariat (CCS) sits within the Cabinet Office at the heart of central government. It works in partnership with government departments, the devolved administrations (Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland) and key stakeholders to enhance the UK's ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies.
Mission

CCS has a number of specific objectives:

1. **Spotting trouble, assessing its nature and providing warning**

Not all emergencies are predictable. But, for those that are, the earlier an emerging crisis is detected, and the more accurately its likely size and shape are assessed, the better the response will be put into place. This objective covers the measures needed to ensure that, working with Departments and a wide range of other organizations, CCS can spot, assess and warn of trouble and thus facilitate the provision of the most effective response, drawing on lessons from past experience.

2. **Being ready to respond**

This objective covers the preparedness of all of those who might have a role to play in the response to a major disruptive challenge. As well as ensuring that CCS itself is ready, it is also about tracking the preparedness of organizations at national and local levels, in the public sector and outside, using the Civil Contingencies Act to develop and embed performance audit and management regimes across all responders, rooted in formal preparedness assessments. CCS also aims to ensure mechanisms are in place so that the UK is as well placed as it can be to respond to threats which horizon-scanning shows may be at higher risk of occurring.

3. **Building greater resilience for the future**

This objective covers action at all levels, from local to international, to build stronger resilience capabilities. It thus covers the processes led by the CCS to drive the delivery of resilience capabilities. It also covers international work to develop closer relations in the resilience field through which we can build mutual resilience. This includes bilateral work, and action in the EU and in NATO to seek to build greater resilience capability in partner countries, as well as the EU’s own ability to manage a crisis.

4. **Providing leadership and guidance to the resilience community**

CCS aims to tell those involved in delivering and building resilience across the UK what the secretariat is trying to do, where it is trying to get to, how it will get there and how it will know that it has succeeded - in short, to build consistency and coherence across the UK. Some key means are already in place, especially via the Capabilities Programme and its outputs and the Civil Contingencies Act. CCS will be focusing on the development of a 'National Resilience Strategy' and reviewing the national exercise programme.

5. **Effective management**

This objective covers the way in which CCS manages itself, and its effective management of Cabinet Office processes. Some of it is routine but nonetheless important. CCS aims to sustain reputation as effective managers of people and money, and as efficient operators of Cabinet Office processes.

Activities

The ten most significant achievements over the past four years are:
1. Establishing a UK-wide horizon scanning capacity

Emergencies in the early years of this century showed that the UK was missing the warning signs, failing to prevent emergencies and being caught unaware when they occurred. CCS now works with a range of organizations to deliver a Forward Look, which helps to identify and prevent potential emergencies.

2. Establishing a national risk assessment process

The UK now has a national risk assessment process, which identifies risks over a five year period and forms the basis for decisions about emergency preparedness. This risk assessment process involves a wide range of organizations, and is the first time that the UK has a systematic and all-inclusive approach to risk analysis.

3. Delivering improved performance and outputs across the civil protection area through the Capabilities Programme

Although government departments and other organizations have always had emergency plans, CCS established and now leads a Capabilities Programme which provides central direction and co-ordination to emergency preparedness. The Programme has delivered a step change improvement in departmental preparedness and joined-up working.

4. Establishing the UK's first national exercise programme

For the first time, the UK now has an exercise programme which co-ordinates the range of exercises which have always taken place within government. The CCS-led programme adds value by minimizing duplication, improving the quality of exercises, prioritizing key risks and ensuring the sharing of lessons.

5. Supporting the new Resilience Emergency Divisions

CCS was closely involved in the work during 2010/11 to design and establish 3 new RED(s) in England. Managed by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), the RED(s) improve co-ordination and communication, and acts as a bridge between central government and the local level.

6. Delivering a Civil Contingencies Act

By the turn of the century, the legislative framework for civil protection was widely regarded as out of date and unfit for purpose. CCS developed a Civil Contingencies Bill and took it through Parliament, working closely with a wide range of stakeholders inside and outside government. The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and its associated non-legislative measures provide robust, modern framework for civil protection right across the UK.

7. Securing the right resources for civil protection

CCS has played a crucial role in securing the right level of resourcing for civil protection work. The level of funding for national security and emergency preparedness will double between 2001 and
2008. CCS was particularly closely involved in building a new financial deal for local authority civil protection work, overseeing a 120 per cent increase in funding.

8. Transforming the Emergency Planning College

An integral part of CCS from the outset, the Emergency Planning College has undergone a period of transformation. Between October 2003 and July 2004 the College underwent a renewal project which included two new accommodation blocks plus a new training block. And the courses have been extensively remodelled to improve the value added.

9. Playing a key role in helping to co-ordinate the Government's response to emergencies

CCS has played an important part in the response to emergencies which have arisen since its establishment. These have included the London bombings, the Asian Tsunami, industrial action and major public protests. Perhaps the most notable was the Fire Strike of 2002, during which CCS played a pivotal co-ordination role in support of the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), providing crisis management advice, assessments and consequence management.

10. Enhancing the UK's international civil protection networks

International partnerships have taken on a new prominence since CCS assumed responsibility for the UK’s interests in international civil protection networks. CCS has delivered increasingly active participation in EU, NATO and other international forums and supported an enhanced international profile for UK civil protection work.

Current concerns

- Pandemic flu
- Avian flu
- Severe Weather, Flooding, Drought
- Human Health
- Terrorism
- Transport Accidents
- Animal and Plant Diseases
- Public Protest
- International Events
- Industrial Technical Failure
- Structural Failure
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN)
- Industrial Accidents and Environmental Pollution
## Status of the National Platforms

### Table 1: Status of the National Platforms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Governmental Body</th>
<th>NGO</th>
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- **Governmental Body**: 93%
- **NGO**: 7%
Table 2: Composition of the National Platforms

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>NGO Presence</th>
<th>Private Sector Presence</th>
<th>Media Presence</th>
<th>Presence of Research and Academic Institutions</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Out of 27 National Platforms, 21 include both civil society and 20 Academic and Research Institutions. Nine have media presence and 12 include the private sector.
### Table 3: Coordination of the National Platforms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>Ministry of Emergency Situations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Ministry for Emergency Situations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>Ministry of Security</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior, Chief Directorate Fire Safety and Civil Protection</td>
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<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior, National Protection and Rescue Directorate</td>
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<td>Ministry of Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development, Transportations and Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>DKKV (NGO)</td>
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<td>General Secretariat for Civil Protection of the Ministry of Public Order and Citizen Protection</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Prime Minister’s Office</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
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<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>Ministry of Security and Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Directorate for Civil Protection and Emergency Planning, Ministry of Justice and the Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Institute of Meteorology and Water Management (Research-development unit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>National Authority for Civil Protection, Ministry of the Interior</td>
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* * Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and the Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters.
Table 4: Submission of HFA National Reports by National Platforms

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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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![Bar chart showing total number of submissions by reporting period](image-url)