



United Nations  
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction



## Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Third Session, Geneva, Switzerland  
8 - 13 May 2011

The world's foremost gathering on reducing disaster risk and building the resilience of communities and nations

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

### **2nd meeting of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR)**

**10-12 October 2011, Skopje**

Paola Albrito, Head Regional Office Europe  
UNISDR

# GPDRR 3<sup>rd</sup> Session

- Opened by UN SG, Ban Ki-moon, Macedonian President
- 2,600 delegates attended (*1288 Europeans*)
- 163 Governments (*39 European Gov*)
- 25 Inter-governmental organizations
- 65 non-governmental organizations
- Parliamentarians (*Finland, France*)
- Private sector
- Local government (*including Venice, Tyrol*)
- Academic institutions
- Civil society and international organisations

# GPDRR 3<sup>rd</sup> Session

- UN Secretary General committed his full support
- Japan offered to host the third World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015
- Mayors renewed their commitment to the Ten Essentials of the “My City is Getting Ready” Campaign.
- Private sector agreed on Five Essentials for Business and issued a Statement of Commitment for DRR.
- Young people came together to advance a Five Point Charter on Children and Disaster Reduction.
- Regional organizations reaffirmed their commitment to implementing regional strategies agreed to in ministerial meetings worldwide

Highlighted that Governments, institutions communities and individuals have the choice to place DRR at the forefront:

- Supporting local governments and non-state actors at the front line of implementation (*e.g. Armenia, Council of Europe*)
- Draw on untapped potential of local actors and the role of women as agents of change (*e.g. Armenia, FYR of Macedonia, Norway*)
- Involve youth in DRR decisions that affect their future (*e.g. Denmark, Georgia, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Turkey*)
- Fully engage the private sector as leaders in resilient infrastructure, urban sustainable development; and protection of resources (*e.g. Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, FYR of Macedonia, Russian Federation*)
- Continue to engage scientific and technical communities to inform decision making (*e.g. FYR of Macedonia, Portugal, Turkey, Council of Europe*)

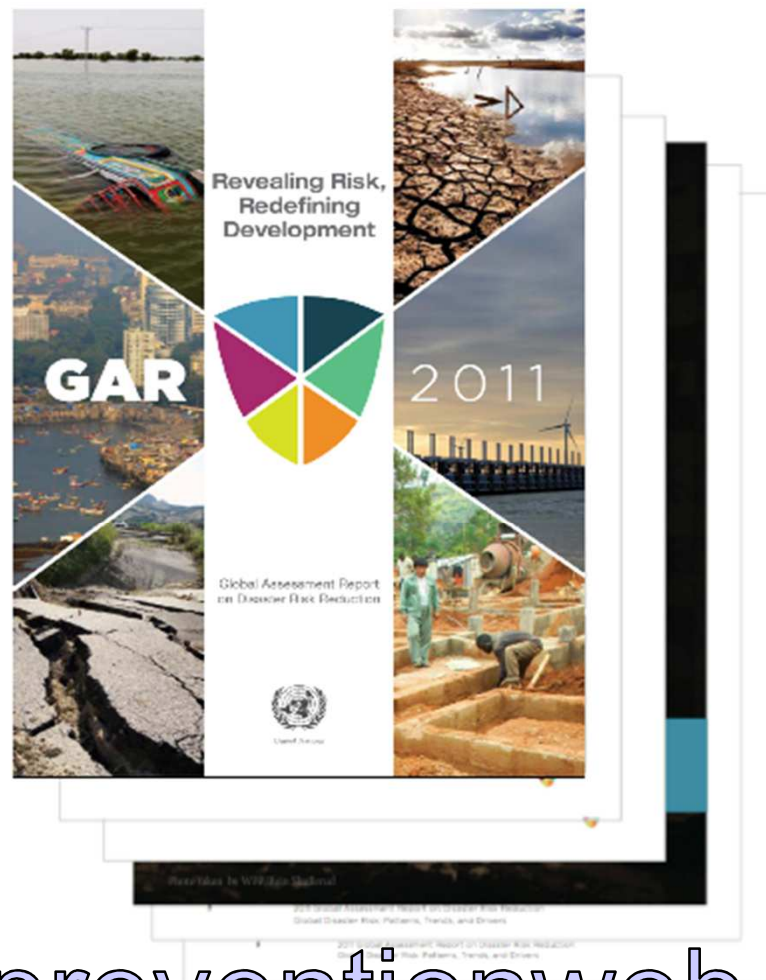
## Mid-term review of the HFA

- Significant progress occurring in implementation of HFA
- Especially in the passing of national legislation, establishment of early warning systems, and strengthening of disaster preparedness and response.

### Concerns:

- the lack of systematic multi hazard risk assessments and early warning systems
- factoring in social and economic vulnerabilities
- and the insufficient level of implementation of the HFA at the local level.

# Global Assessment Report 2011



# Selected GAR key messages

- Falling mortality – rising economic loss risk
- Systematically account for disaster losses (*root caused for low government investments*)
- Use of transfer of catastrophic risk (*while insurance or other risk transfer options need to be part of a governments risk management strategy*)

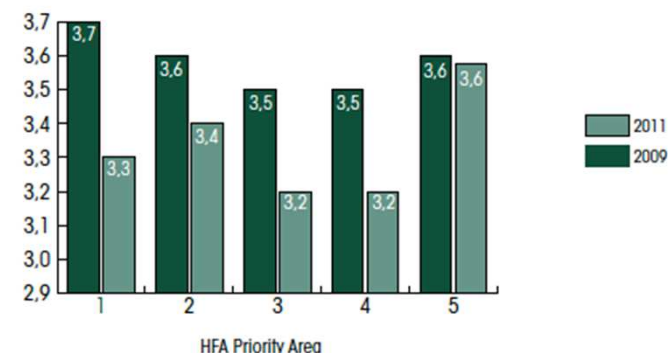
## HFA Europe Progress

Three significant findings emerge from analysis of the country and regional reports.

- Countries with NPs or about to finalize their NPs, report significant and ongoing reliance in addressing DRR cross cutting issues, more than doubles in most instances compared to those countries without NPs. Clearly, **NPs are having an impact on mainstreaming DRR approaches.**

- While at a glance looks like countries have slightly reduced their advances in the set indicators, a deeper analysis of the qualitative information provided by the country and regional reports **reveals an evolution from a mindset of crisis and response to one of proactive risk reduction** and safety.

AVERAGE PROGRESS IN EACH PRIORITY AREA



- The third significant finding concerns the effectiveness of regional organizations. The 2011 HFA Europe report finds that the **European Commission and EU (together with other regional organizations)** have been responsive to the needs identified in the 2009 report.



## Recommendations from the Chair's Summary

- Accounting for disaster losses in a consistent and standardized manner; *(Advice provided to countries and partners to implement disaster loss databases and loss accounting systems: UNISDR GAR Team, EC)*
- Tracking investments in DRR, including in risk reducing development, to provide clear evidence of the cost and benefits; *(SEE activities with World Bank)*
- Encouraging and increasing dedicated budget allocations for DRR; *(NP, HFA Focal Points)*

## Recommendations from the Chair's Summary

- Developing standards and indicators for measuring the effectiveness of DRR at all levels; *(EC, UNISDR)*
- Increasing investment in DRR at the local level; *(NP and HFA Focal Points, Resilient Cities Campaign,)*
- Raising public awareness of disaster risks; *(EC, Council of Europe, UNISDR)*
- Anticipating and preparing emerging risks; *(post-HFA process including as well Technological Hazards; DG Research, EC)*

## Recommendations from the Chair's Summary

- Promoting mechanisms and partnerships that integrate climate change adaptation and DRR into development;
- Ensure attention to disaster risk reduction in upcoming meetings, such as the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference in Indonesia, Rio+20, UNFCCC mechanisms, the 6th World Urban Forum and the Aid- Effectiveness Meeting in 2011. (*EFDRR*)
- Support implementation of the Millennium Development Goals by promoting risk reduction strategies that protect development investments. (*ongoing*)

## Related links

- Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
  - [www.preventionweb.net/gpdr](http://www.preventionweb.net/gpdr)
- Mid-term review of HFA
  - [www.preventionweb.net/go/hfa-mtr](http://www.preventionweb.net/go/hfa-mtr)
- Global Assessment Report 2011
  - [www.preventionweb.net/gar](http://www.preventionweb.net/gar)

***Thank you***

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