

# 2nd meeting of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction Summary



25 Countries

50 participants

20 National Platforms (4  
more than 2010) 37  
countries with HFA Focal  
point

**Monday 10 October 2011**

# Opening

President H.E. Dr. Gjorge Ivanov:

- Responsible individuals,
- responsible societies and
- responsible governments.



## SRSG:

- The regional work is a very strong base for the next step in the institutional development
- Data is becoming a unique repository for knowledge about risk and what is required to effectively reduce risk.

# EFDRR Presence in 2011

- Friends of the Chair Meeting
- Participation at 5 Meetings
- EFDRR Brochure Publication
- HFA Europe Report
- Steering Committee Meeting
- Several Emails and Phone Calls to EFDRR members



# Global Platform Recommendations currently addressed in Europe

- Accounting for disaster losses in a consistent and standardized manner
- Tracking investments in DRR, including in risk reducing development, to provide clear evidence of the cost and benefits;
- Encouraging and increasing dedicated budget allocations for DRR;
- Developing standards and indicators for measuring the effectiveness of DRR at all levels;
- Increasing investment in DRR at the local level;
- Raising public awareness of disaster risks;
- Anticipating and preparing emerging risks

## Update from Regional Organizations

- Strong Engagement from regional organizations in supporting DRR with upcoming full agendas:
  - **Council of Europe:** Recommendation on ethical principals, forest fires and radiological information have been adopted; publications on lessons learned on psycho-social assistance and on CCA and DRR governance
  - **EC:**
    - ✓ Improving the knowledge base
    - ✓ EU guidelines on risk assessment and mapping
    - ✓ Innovative solutions for financing disaster prevention
    - ✓ EU guidelines on minimum standards for disaster prevention
    - ✓ International Cooperation
  - **DPPI:** DRR capacity building at national and regional level and cross border collaboration (next meeting 7-8 November)
  - **RCC:** supporting as an umbrella organization with the EC on the IPA Multi beneficiary Programme (UNDP); World Bank / UNISDR in the insurance / reinsurance initiative in South Eastern Europe; support DPPI in the Chairmanship; High level event: **Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction** (18 November 2011, Belgrade)

## TV Debate

**Outcome:** Increased citizens awareness to DRR

**Recommendations:** Continue raising awareness at local level also through the highest political engagement

**Experience shared on the following questions:**

- Where and what are the risks?
- What are the DRR measures in place at local level to reduce the risk?
- How can local governments integrate future risks in current DRR policies?



## Local Level Implementation of HFA (DRR Campaign)

**Outcome:** The session emphasized the need to continue the exchanges on local level implementation of DRR among the EFDRR.

### **Recommendations:**

- Develop a working group
- Develop a review on how NPs experiences engage local municipality and cities (e.g. use of existing mayors networks) and sharing of good practices;

### **Experience shared from:**

- Austria: Simple technical and political information addressed to the end users was demonstrated; It highlighted the bottom up and cost effective approach.
- France: «resilience index» to major natural and industrial hazards for prevention, planning, preparedness, risk education, emergency management, economical and social resilience and recovery.
- Italy: National platform supported several Italian Cities to join the Resilient Cities Campaign;
- Turkey: merged different institutions to undertake activities at local level e.g. retrofitting

# Earthquake protection of historical buildings

**Outcome:** Importance of science and expertise in protection of historical buildings and protection of historical buildings.

**Recommendations:**

The need for special attention and expertise for protection of cultural heritage from disasters

**Experience shared by:** Professor Elena Dumova-Jovanoska

## Reception hosted by H.E. Dr. Gjeorge Ivanov



## Reception hosted by H.E. Dr. Gjeorge Ivanov





**Tuesday 11 October 2011**



## Information Sharing and Exchange and Using Financial Instruments (Working Group 2)

**Outcomes** The group reported a number of successes:

- Identification through the survey of areas of exchanges among NPs with identified financial assistance need for undertaking such exchanges
- EFDRR webpage developed (by UNISDR) together with a workspace for EFDRR;
- PEER Review proposal discussed. UK committed to trying the review proses (pilot country) for HFA Monitoring Report;

### **Recommendations:**

- EFDRR members to populate the webpage;
- Need for more exchanges also between actors from different sectors working with DRR including scientists and local experts;

### **Experience shared from:**

- Armenia: Building on public information and awareness, school children and creative solutions by using story telling to change people's attitude; Firemen to become promoters for risk awareness and using modern social medial

## **Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (MASA)**

**Outcome:** Increased awareness on seismic risk: building safer and retrofitting (e.g. historical building)

**Recommendation:** For NPs to ensure the active participation of scientific presence within the platform rather than the use of scientific reviews. Actively engage and support scientific and technical communities to inform decision-making.

**Experience shared from:**

Academia Pop Jordanov's presentation focused on the need to include in disaster risk reduction the social and psychological dimension, with particular reference to mental health and pressure and its measurement by existing indicators.

Prof. Virginia Murray advocated on the need to actively engage and support scientific and technical communities to inform decision making by showing examples on the usage of the Public Library of Science.

Prof. Salvano Briceno introduced the work by Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) on integrated research to effective sustainable development policies.

## Institute for Earthquake Engineering and Seismology

**Outcome:** Increased understanding about the contribution of the scientific knowledge in the risk reduction agenda

**Recommendation:** Ensure the consultation and use of science applied for DRR in building safety and retrofitting

**Experience shared from:** Prof. Garevski, Prof. Salvano and members of the IEES team



**Wednesday 12 October 2011**



## **Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (Working Group 1)**

### **Outcome:**

- Agreed for the WG1 to undertake a survey to all European HFA focal points and NPs coordinators to find out if nations include in their adaptation plans/strategy issues related to disaster risk reduction.
- Need to analyse outcome of IPCC Report and explore possible implications for Europe in its work on DRR and CCA (EFDRR 2012 Meeting).

### **Experience shared from:**

- Spain: Highlighted measures for forest fire preventions. In linkage to climate change long term planning is required;
- Croatia: need to increase investment in climate modeling, forecasting and analysis to support the sectoral planning in the sectors facing risk
- Network of environment (PEDDR), DRR and development planning scientists and practitioners
- UNISDR: On how to engage in the international arena on linking CCA & DRR

## **Main elements and highlights for EFDRR to provide input for 2012**

**Outcome:** Increased awareness of international on going processes related to the sustainable development agenda and possibilities to include DRR dimensions;

### **Recommendation:**

- EFDRR to put forward the DRR dimension (see provided documents) to their country representatives attending the upcoming main international events linked to sustainable development issues:
  - Rio + 20;
  - UNFCCC;
  - Post HFA (direct involvement through consultations);
  - Urban Forum.

## EFDRR Logo

**Outcome:** Discussion on the EFDRR logo



**Recommendation:** Continue working on the EFDRR logo to make it less busy looking.

## **Key Outcomes**

- EFDRR is success + getting high level support (support of the Macedonian President on DRR)
- Working Methods including working groups seem to be on the right path
- Getting increasing visibility at European and World Levels
- Networking of academic and expert community

## **Challenges**

- Continue encouraging and establishing of National Platforms
- Increase the presence of HFA Focal Points
- Have a more active involvement in the EFDRR Working Group

# EFDRR 2012

Chair: Croatia

Appointed Co-Chair: Norway





**Thank you for all your support!**

