



United Nations
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
Secretariat, Geneva

Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland
Fax: (+41 22) 917 0528
E-mail: isdr.vacancies@un.org

Consultancy Vacancy with UNISDR	
Date of issue: 24 November 2011	ISDR/C/26/2011

Post Title: Consultant

Duty station: Consultant is not required to work on UN premises

Deadline for applications: 30 November 2011

Assignments end date: 31 December 2011

***United Nations Core Values:
Integrity • Professionalism • Respect for diversity***

Background:

UNISDR is the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. It was created in December 1999 and is part of the UN Secretariat with the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

Governments around the world have committed to take action to reduce disaster risk, and have adopted a guideline to reduce vulnerabilities to natural hazards, the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015. Its thrusts are: to make disaster risk reduction (DRR) a priority; know the risks and take action; build understanding and awareness; reduce risk; and get prepared and ready to act. The work of UNISDR supports those objectives, by helping obtain commitment from public authorities to implement disaster reduction policies and actions; stimulating partnerships across disciplines and sectors to expand risk reduction networks; advocate, support public education about risk and risk reduction and stimulate the increase of scientific knowledge about risk and disaster impacts.

For many disaster risk reduction practitioners, especially civil society organizations, the key factor to success is the efficiency with which they manage to make their voice heard, distribute information, find the right access to the most up-to-date information, as well as the efficiency with which they communicate amongst themselves. This was addressed further during the third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, resulting in the commitment to use available communication technologies by which knowledge and information about what is happening locally and nationally can be captured, stored and disseminated.

United Nations, secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Geneva
9-11 Rue de Varembe CH 1202, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. :(+41 22) 917 8908/8907 - Fax : (+41 22) 917 8964 - isdr@un.org - www.unisdr.org
Postal Address: Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland

Objectives

The objectives for this consultancy are:

- To scope and report on existing networks and communities of practice within the wider disaster risk reduction, climate change and development field, as part of a larger review of best practice and trend in engaging multi-stakeholders, in particular civil society organizations.
- To review and recommend mechanisms by which knowledge and information about what is happening locally and nationally can be discussed (interactive dialogue), captured, stored and disseminated. This should enable learning within and across civil society communities, practitioners and partners; and the transfer of effective practice.
- To identify networks and communities of practice that link to other policy processes (for example Rio+20 Earth Summit and Climate Change Conference of the parties), as well as those that could link to the implementation and consultation process in the lead of the post Hyogo Framework for Action; and ISDR Global and Regional Platforms.

Output

Produce a report that will result in three focused options:

1. The first option will look at new ways to make networks and communities of practice “accessible” to multi-stakeholder groups, offering recommendations for an online platform - especially for civil society organizations.
2. The second option will be tailored and structured around Prevention Web or UNISDR website tools for networks and communities.
3. The third option will explore partnering with an existing network or community of practice and sharing the responsibility for its maintenance.

Each option will identify the technical, resources (financial and human) and practical implications to effectively provide a functional and successful system that stakeholders would engage with, and most importantly that would be sustainable.

Competencies:

Professionalism: Demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter; is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results.

Communication: Speaks and writes clearly and effectively; demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.

Qualifications:

Education: Advanced university degree advanced degree in Social Science, Information Management, Communication, International Studies or related fields. A first-level university degree in combination with qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

- Experience:** A minimum of 7 years of progressively responsible experience in Knowledge Management or related areas.
- Language:** Fluency in oral and written English.
- Other:** Knowledge and experience in stakeholder consultation requirements.

How to apply

Please email the following documents to the ISDR secretariat at: isdr.vacancies@un.org:

1. Cover letter, explaining why you consider yourself qualified and motivated for this particular assignment.
2. Completed personal history profile form (The P11 form can be downloaded from <http://www.unisdr.org/who-we-are/vacancies>).
3. It would be appreciated your stating your full name and the ISDR vacancy notice number **(ISDR/C/26/2011)** as the subject in your e-mail of application.

Please note that applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. Applicants will be contacted only if they are under serious consideration