Partners in the Global Campaign Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready!

Many international, regional, national and private sector partners are supporting activities and local governments in the global campaign Making Cities Resilient, whose objectives are to improve capacities to deal with disaster risk at city level in each country. The most active partners include networks of cities such as United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, CITYNET and the Earthquake Megacities Initiative (EMI); international organisations such as the European Commission (ECHO), the World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery; UN agencies and programmes, with UNHABITAT in the lead; NGOs and their networks (notably the Chinese-based World Cities Scientific Development Alliance—WCSDA); the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction; PLAN International; GROOTS International (with the Huairou Commission); academia and private sector companies, through the UNISDR Private Sector Advisory Group; national associations of local governments; and national authorities and National Platforms for Disaster Reduction.

The principal partners that have supported the development of this Handbook include:

United Nations
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)
www.unisdr.org

The United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) is the UN focal point for the coordination of disaster risk reduction activities and leads a vibrant network that includes UN Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, financial institutions, the private sector, scientific and technical bodies, and civil society. UNISDR is spearheading the current campaign to create global awareness of the benefits of disaster risk reduction and empower people to reduce their vulnerability to hazards. The Campaign on Making Cities Resilient has mobilized—through the end of 2011—more than 1,000 cities and local governments who have committed to making their cities safer and more resilient to disasters, in support of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities. UNISDR is the custodian of this Framework, which is applied by governments and other stakeholders. Advocating for including crosscutting issues such as climate change, education and gender into risk reduction initiatives, UNISDR prepares a biennial Global Assessment Report on disaster risk reduction and analysis of the natural hazards that affect humanity.
The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
www.gfdrr.org

Established in 2006, the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) is a partnership of 38 countries and seven international organisations, hosted at the World Bank, committed to helping developing countries reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and adapt to climate change through three tracks: Global and Regional Partnerships; Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction into Development; and Standby Recovery Financing Facility for Accelerated Disaster Recovery. The partnership’s mission is to mainstream disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into country development strategies by supporting a country-led and managed implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
www.iclei.org

ICLEI is an international association of more than 1,200 cities and their associations worldwide as well as local, national and regional government organisations who have made a commitment to sustainable development. ICLEI drives positive change on a global scale through programmes and campaigns on local sustainability. It is also a resource center, offering information, tools, networking, training and consulting services. ICLEI serves as Secretariat of the World Mayors Council on Climate Change, which launched the Mayors Adaptation Forum as an annual platform for exchange and policy discussion on urban resilience. ICLEI, together with the WMCCC and the City of Bonn, has launched a series of annual world congresses on cities and adaptation to climate change—“Resilient Cities”—and will convene the third global forum on urban resilience in 2012. In addition to low carbon and climate neutral cities and green infrastructure, the goals of ICLEI’s 2010-15 strategic plan now include “resilient communities.”
United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
www.cities-localgovernments.org

UCLG is the world’s largest organisation of local and regional governments, working in 140 countries to represent their interests, regardless of the size of the communities they serve, advocating for democratic local self-government, and promoting their values, objectives and interests, through cooperation among local governments and within the wider international community. In the field of resilience and disaster risk reduction, UCLG is an active participant in awareness campaigns and information dissemination, helping its members to put disaster risk reduction on the local and regional political agenda. UCLG ensures that the national structures work with local governments on disaster risk reduction, risk reduction functions and resources and that local authorities have access to UN and international risk prevention funds.

CITYNET www.citynet-ap.org

CITYNET is a regional network of urban stakeholders for the Asia-Pacific region, including local governments, development authorities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations, research and training institutes and private companies committed to helping local governments improve the sustainability of human settlements. It helps cities and local governments provide better services to citizens, with a commitment to capacity building at the local level.
Earthquake Megacities Initiative (EMI)
www.emi-megacities.org

EMI is an international, not-for-profit scientific organisation dedicated to the reduction of disaster risk in megacities and major metropolises. EMI’s mandate is to build capacity in developing countries by enabling acquisition and application of scientific knowledge in both policy and practice to strengthen urban earthquake preparedness and mitigation. EMI draws strength from its network of partner cities, research and academic institutions, and professional and local government organisations worldwide. By working collaboratively with its partners, EMI has developed competence in analytical approaches, strategic planning and problem-solving for disaster risk reduction, including the model Disaster Risk Management Master Plan, a tool to guide local authorities and partner institutions in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into governance processes and functions through a participatory planning process.

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)
www.unhabitat.org

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) is the UN agency for sustainable urban development. It is mandated to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. UN-HABITAT’s Disaster Management Programme is the agency focal point for provision of assistance to governments and local authorities in countries recovering from war or natural disasters. It also provides technical assistance to help prevent future crises arising from natural hazards. Working with partners, including the UNISDR, Red Cross and Red Crescent movement and others, UN-HABITAT counterparts in government, civil society and the private sector, aim to ensure that cities of the future are resilient, well-planned and reduce their impact on the environment.