**Training of Trainers on the Role of Local Governments**

**in making cities more resilient to disasters**

***4-6 September 2012, Beirut, Grand Serail***

1. **Background**

Since the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action in 2005, greater awareness of the importance of reducing disaster risk has emerged among countries. Since Lebanon is subjected to a range of natural hazards, it was perceived to be critical for the country to be adequately prepared to respond to such disasters. In this context, a project “Strengthening Disaster Risk Management Capacities in Lebanon” was launched by UNDP with the Prime Minister’s Office to help the Lebanese Government develop its disaster management and corresponding risk reduction strategy.

Within this project, Lebanon began to steadily build capacities and enhance awareness on disaster risk reduction at all levels. In the last three years, legislations have been reviewed, institutional mechanisms were revisited and being enhanced, resources are made available for public awareness and capacity-building programmes and engagement of the media and the public sector on disaster risk reduction issues have increased. Furthermore, efforts were concretized in the first national progress report on achievements in the priority areas identified in the Hyogo Framework for Action, the initiation of a national risk assessment, and the development of a national response plan.

However, since the vulnerability of the Lebanese population to disaster threats is compounded by relatively small presence of the government ministries in peripheral regions, and as cities of all sizes are subjected to rapid population growth, environmental degradation and overall increased conditions of vulnerability, the importance of the role of local governments has been recognized as essential in implementing DRR strategies.

In this context, **249 municipalities and unions** have been supported by UNDP to join the UNISDR World Disaster Reduction Campaign “Making Resilient Cities – My City is Getting Ready” that aims to achieve resilient, sustainable urban communities. With the long term objectivetoempower local governments through stronger national policies to invest in risk reduction at local level, as part of urban and regional development plans, the Campaign engages the commitment of Mayors and city councils and their local government associations to a ten-point checklist adapted based on the HFA priorities.

Furthermore, and in order to ensure sustained efforts and support to the joining municipalities, UNDP has approached the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM) in order to formalize an agreement in relation to building the capacities of municipalities to implement DRR activities.

1. **Objectives**

This workshop in Lebanon aims at building the capacities of local government officials from 64 municipalities and 8 unions of municipalities from all Governorates and Cazas of Lebanon, as well as 11 MoIM trainers, in order to equip them with the necessary knowledge and tools to train municipalities on the integration of disaster risk reduction in city planning and local development.

The participating local governments were selected by the MoIM Director General, and include Cazas’ capitals and large cities, as well as a sample of unions and municipalities from all regions of Lebanon. Representatives from each of the local governments will be selected, preferably municipalities’ staff with technical expertise and/or planning background. These will be expected to train the municipalities’ staff on DRR, as well as conduct the self-assessment for disaster resilience.

The workshop will also serve as basis for the unions’ representatives and MoIM trainers for the further training of municipalities on DRR in all regions of the country.

The specific objectives of the TOT are as follows:

* Establish a common understanding among a sample of municipalities, unions, and MoIM trainers on DRR;
* Promoting the World Disaster Reduction Campaign on Making Cities Resilient and facilitate exchanges of good practices with other Cities around the globe;
* Building the capacity of local representatives and trainers on tools that will help municipalities to implement the Ten essentials for making cities resilient;
* Establishing mechanisms of follow-up between UNISDR and UNDP on one hand, and the municipalities on the other, in order to compile data from the LG-SAT;
* Exploring steps forward with the MoIM focal points for expansion of the training to municipalities across Lebanon.
* Introducing the National Disaster Loss Database including establishing mechanisms of follow up between UNDP and the municipalities in order to compile data cards for the national disaster loss database;

1. **Workshop content**

The workshop will be based on the “Handbook for Local Government Leaders” developed by UNISDR. It will cover the following main topics:

1. **Introduction: DRR global agenda and relevance to Lebanon**
2. **Risks and Vulnerabilities facing cities in the different regions of Lebanon**
3. **Characteristics of a Disaster Resilient City**
4. **Benefits of investing in disaster risk reduction and resilience**
5. **World Disaster Reduction campaign and Ten Essentials**

Essential 1: Institutional and Administrative Framework

Essential 2: Financing and Resources

Essential 3: Multi-hazard Risk Assessment- Know your Risk

Essential 4: Infrastructure Protection, Upgrading and Resilience

Essential 5: Protect Vital Facilities: Education and Health

Essential 6: Building Regulations and Land Use Planning

Essential 7: Training, Education and Public Awareness

Essential 8: Environmental Protection and Strengthening of Ecosystems

Essential 9: Effective Preparedness, Early Warning and Response

Essential 10: Recovery and Rebuilding Communities

1. **Mayors Handbook**
2. **Local Government Self-Assessment Tool for Disaster Resilience**
3. **Introduction to National Disaster Loss Database**
4. **Introduction to good practices from other cities engaged in the Campaign**

**AGENDA**

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| **Day 1** | **Tuesday 4 September 2012** | |
| 9:00-9:30 | **REGISTRATION** | |
| 9:30-9:50 | **Opening of the Workshop**  **Welcoming Remarks**   * Mr. Samir Daher, Advisor to the Prime Minister * Mrs. Luna Abu-Swaireh, Regional Office for Arab States, UNISDR * Mr Lucca Renda, UNDP Country Director * Mr Remond Medleg, Advisor to the Minister of Interior | |
| 9:50 – 10:15 | **Introduction of TOT & Participants**  Facilitated by UNISDR Regional Office for Arab States and Lebanon DRM Unit | |
| 10:15 – 10:45 | **DRR global agenda and relevance to Lebanon**  Ms. Luna Abu-Swaireh, Regional Office for Arab States, UNISDR | |
| 10:45 -11:00 | **COFFEE BREAK** | |
| 11:00 – 11:45 | **Risks and Vulnerabilities facing cities in the different regions of Lebanon**  Ms. Nathalie Zaarour, Disaster Risk Management Unit (Prime Minister Office/UNDP) | |
| 11:45 – 12:30 | **World Disaster Reduction Campaign and Ten Essentials**  Mr. Ragy Saro, Regional Office for Arab States UNISDR | |
| 12:30-13:30 | **LUNCH** | |
| 13:30-15:00 | **Characteristics of a Disaster Resilient City**   * Campaign Role Model: sharing experience from the City of Amadora, Portugal (Mr. Luís Carvalho, Geographer/Planner, Civil Protection Municipal Services in Amadora) * Open discussion and exchanges with participants | |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | **COFFEE BREAK** | |
| 15:15 – 17:00 | | **Mayors Handbook: How to Make Cities More Resilient**  ***How to implement the Ten essentials for making cities resilient***  Phase One: Organizing and Preparing to Incorporate the Ten Essentials  Phase Two: Diagnosis and Assessment of the City’s Risk  Phase Three: Developing a Safe and Resilient City Action Plan  Phase Four: Implementing the Plan  Phase Five: Monitoring and Follow Up |

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| **Day 2** | **Wednesday 5 September 2012** |
| 9:00-9:30 | **Recap** on Day 1 and addressing and questions / concerns |
| 09:30-11:00 | **Strategic planning and community engagement for Disaster Risk Reduction at Local Level**   * Campaign Role Model: sharing experience from the City of Nice, France (Ms Sylvia Gahlin, Technical Expert Nice Municipality) * Open discussion and exchanges with participants |
| 11:00-11:15 | **COFFEA BREAK** |
| 11:15-13:00 | **Introducing the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool for Disaster Resilience** **(LG-SAT)**  Regional Office for Arab States, UNISDR |
| 13:00-14:00 | **LUNCH** |
| 14:00-15:00 | **Introducing the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool for Disaster Resilience** **(LG-SAT) –** Cont’d   * With reflections from cities that have tested/completed the LG-SAT tool |
| 15:00-15:15 | **COFFEA BREAK** |
| 15:00-17:00 | **Working Groups on challenges and priorities facing Lebanese cities and municipalities in terms of disaster risk**  *Participants will be divided into groups of 10 in each to brainstorm and think about the following questions:*   * What are the major disaster risks and challenges financially, technically, legislative, social, etc..? * Implementing the Ten Essentials in Lebanon: how, what and when? |

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| **Day 3** | **Thursday 6 September 2012** |
| 9:00-9:30 | **Recap** on Day 1 and addressing any questions / concerns |
| 9:30-11:00 | **Benefits of Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience**  Ms. Helena Molin-Valdes, Chief of Advocacy and Outreach and Coordinator of Global Campaign on Making Cities Resilient, UNISDR |
| 11:00-11:15 | **COFFEA BREAK** |
| 11:15-12:45 | **Integrating and institutionalizing disaster risk reduction in urban development plans and investments**   * Campaign Role Model: sharing experience from the City of Aqaba, Jordan (Eng. Khaled R. Abuaisheh, Head of DRR Unit in Aqaba) * Open discussion and exchanges with participants |
| 12:45-14:00 | **LUNCH** |
| 14:00-15:00 | **Accounting for disaster losses nationally and locally: Introduction to National Disaster Loss Database**  Bilal El-Ghali, Desinventar and E-Library Assistant  Lama Tabbara, IT officer  Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Unit, Lebanon   * Relevance to disaster risk management * Overview of Lebanon database * Data collection and methodology |
| 15:00-15:15 | **COFFEE BREAK** |
| 15:00-15:45 | **What is a Disaster Resilient City?**  - Introduction by Ms Helena Molin Valdes, UNISDR  - Open discussion with participants |
| 15:45-16:30 | **Opportunities and resources available for Lebanese Municipalities and Cities to integrate disaster risk reduction and implement the Ten Essentials on Making Cities Resilient**  Eng. Majid El Hashem- Civil Engineer at Technical Department at Ministry of Interior and Municipalities   * Concerns and prioritization * Mechanisms of collaboration, exchanges and follow-up * Using the Local-Government Self-Assessment Tool * Capacity development and training |
| 16:30-17:00 | **Wrap Up and Conclusion of the Workshop**   * Feedback from Participants * Distribution of certificates |