

Consultation on the Post-2015 Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction

At the PPRD/UNISDR Urban Resilience Workshop 15-19 October 2012, Lisbon, Portugal

The 29 participants representing mostly civil protection authorities and a few local authorities from Mediterranean countries (Europe and Arab States region) gathered in three groups to discuss the following questions related to the post-2015 framework on disaster risk reduction (the successor of the Hyogo Framework for Action or HFA2).

- What were the **impacts and changes** made in reducing risk and building resilience at city and community levels, **as result of the HFA implementation?**
- What are the **major challenges in investing in disaster risk reduction at local level?** And **what are the underlying factors** contributed **to the challenges for integrating disaster risk reduction into development** planning and programmes at community level?
- How effectively have the **national policies on disaster risk reduction been implemented at local level?** Why? **What are the key factors** that contributed to the successes or failures in reducing local risk of disasters?
- What is the governance of community disaster risk reduction? **How transparent is the community or decision making process** in disaster risk reduction?
- **What are the top three issues, imperative to building local resilience to disasters that needs to be further addressed** in the Post-2015 Framework for DRR?

They then considered HFA key activities as per HFA executive summary and focused on aspects they are most concerned with.

The following provides a summary of working group results:

DRR as a priority, governance, decentralisation, funding/ investment, national coordination

- Maghreb countries are working alongside the provisions of what is written in the Hyogo Framework for Action, although the HFA is not well known (including by most of the participants in this workshop)
- DRR does not receive enough support from local and central authorities
- There is need for more political will, also to update old normative documents/ legislation on DRR
- There is now certain funding for DRR, but few funds for risk transfer mechanisms including calamity funding
- Money/ funds remain the key element to make things happen
- There is a need for “Less planning, more NIKE” (“just do it”)
- Unfortunately there is a lack of cooperation for good prevention
- It is important to have the cooperation of the private sector, but this has not been achieved sufficiently yet
- There remains a lack of cooperation. Local government and municipalities need to be more involved. There is a gap between theory and practice
- We count on international aid to implement Hyogo beyond 2015

Information, awareness-raising and capacity development

- A “culture of risk” is emerging, but a lot still needs to be done of what is foreseen in the HFA. To do so, it is key to better involve NGOs and communities and to involve them in planning and implementation
- More information sharing and communication is necessary
- Regarding the exchange of information, we need to avoid duplication
- There should be decentralized systems for exchange of information
- Capacity development is still needed: We want to be in good position to apply the HFA
- We need to work in the field, do role play exercises and drills
- Scientific and technical research is needed to improve disaster resilience

Preparedness and response/ Decentralisation

- Capacity should be strengthened in local communities including through better equipment to act locally
- Regional contingency planning should be undertaken; most hazards are trans-border
- Need for involvement of all actors in preparedness planning and early recovery
- More needs to be done to offer international assistance at regional level
- Better coordination within regional organizations is needed
- Massive involvement of citizens in civil protection is important (In the former Yugoslav countries this was very strong, but does not exist anymore)
- Develop emergency signals, which are globally recognized
- Keep everything simple and insured (KISS)
- Create more national full scale simulation exercises
- We need to create first scenarios and then assign specific budgets, not only for prevention but also response
- We need to define appropriate preparedness and response strategies

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