

PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTING OF HFA AND ECOWAS DRR POLICY IN WEST AFRICA



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PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTING OF ECOWAS DRR POLICY AND HYOGO FRAMEWORK OF ACTION (HFA)

HFA 1# Policies, institutional and legal frameworks: ensure that disaster risk is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

- **A regional policy for disaster risk reduction adopted by the ECOWAS Heads of State in 2007 and a Plan of Action (2010-2015)**
- **ECOWAS DRR Division has developed and validated a new guideline for strengthening National Platforms in Member States.**
- **ECOWAS supports (10) countries on strengthening National Platforms in the region (Benin, Burkina Faso, The Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire,)**

HFA 2# Risk identification: Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning.

- **In joint collaboration with UNISDR and WB/GFDRR the first regional training workshop on Risk Assessment, in West Africa was organised in November 2009**
- **In joint collaboration with UNDP/BCPR, a training workshop on the implementation of Systematic Inventory and Evaluation for Risk Assessment (SIERA) methodologies in 4 Member States was organised**
- **In the same line, and in collaboration with the World Bank/GFDRR, a study has been conducted on the impacts of trans-national floods in West Africa**
- **There is an initiative to collaborate with the ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN), which is an observation and monitoring tool for conflict prevention and decision-making**



PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTING OF ECOWAS DRR POLICY AND THE HYOGO FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION (HFA)

HFA 3# Knowledge management: Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels.

- Member States are being encouraged to develop and strengthen national instruments for information sharing and exchange of best practices and other mechanisms to enhance coordination and collaboration among DRR stakeholders
- In collaboration with UNISDR and the WB/GFDRR, a hydro-climatic data sharing protocol agreement between Member States was developed in October 2010
- Capacity Assessment of specialised regional institutions in West Africa already commenced in collaboration with UNISDR and the WB/GFDRR for more cooperation to support DRR programmes in Member States
- An exchange of good practice programmes between Member States (Gambia and Nigeria)

HFA 4# Reduce the underlying risk factors (environmental mgt, food security, gender approach, land-use planning, etc.)

- A Sub-regional programme to reduce vulnerability to Climate Change in West Africa in order to address climate challenges and reduce the social, economic and environmental impacts of the expected climate changes in West Africa has commenced
- An initiative to mainstream DRR and Adaptation of West African agriculture to Climate Change as part of the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP) has been developed.
- Also an initiative to mainstream DRR into ECOWAS Regional Strategy on Poverty reduction in West Africa has commenced



PROGRESS MADE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ECOWAS DRR POLICY AND HYOGO FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION (HFA)

➤ **HFA 5# Strengthen Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response at all levels:**

- The ECOWAS Emergency Response Team (EERT) contributes to strengthening regional capacity for emergency response to disasters and to enable ECOWAS to intervene in cases of complex humanitarian emergencies
- A Regional Humanitarian Policy is developed and adopted in order to enhance the capacities of ECOWAS Member States to effectively deal with humanitarian issues and secure the welfare of the people in the ECOWAS region

- A Mechanism for Emergency fund has been put in place in order to support ECOWAS Member States affected by natural disasters such as floods.
- Many countries in the sub-region have already benefited from Emergency fund following the devastating floods that affected the region in 2009, 2010 and 2012.
- ECOWAS is currently working on the establishment of Regional Humanitarian Depot in Bamako Mali



MAJOR CHALLENGES AND GAPS IN WEST AFRICA

- Many countries are yet to develop national policies, legislation, or plans for integrating DRR or strengthening local coping strategies.
- Disaster risk assessment is low in the sub-regions
- The capacities of several sub-regional institutions that provide vital services for risk assessment and early warning need to be strengthened and their output made more people-centred.
- Mobilization of Resources
- Establishment of Sub-regional Platform

END

Thank You !

Merci!!

Obligado!!!

