

**ALGERIA**  
**RESULTS OF THE NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON REDUCING DISASTER RISK POST-2015**  
**(After the Hyogo Framework for Action)**

**Mercure hotel, Algiers, 17 February 2013**

**1. EXISTING HYOGO FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION**

**1.1 Main successes achieved in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) since the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) in 2005:**

- Development of the first National Research Projects (NRP) on major risks since 2005.
- Promulgation of law 04-20 of 25 December 2004 on major risks prevention and disaster management in the frame of sustainable development.
- Application of law 04-20 which led to the establishment of the National platform named "National Delegation for Major Risks".
- Proliferation of studies (and mapping) of hazards and risks in the various concerned sectors.
- Considerable increase in human, material, and technological resources dedicated to risk prevention and management.

**Have essentially contributed to these successes:**

- Increase of the country's awareness following the different natural disasters' consequences suffered by Algeria, especially the flash floods of Bab El-Oued (10.11.2001) and the earthquake of Boumerdes (21.05.2003).
- Establishment of the United Nations International Framework for disaster prevention (IDNDR, ISDR HFA) to which Algeria has actively contributed.
- Significant development of natural disaster insurance (NAT-CAT) since 2005.
- Strengthening the legislative, regulatory, and technical texts related to disaster risk reduction.
- Eradication of precarious housing to reduce structural vulnerability of construction infrastructure ("*Programme 540,000 housing units*").
- Education.
- Training.
- Strengthening of early warning systems for floods and fast-acting response to earthquakes.
- Awareness programs.
- Training of officials and researchers.
- Integration of risk modules in university study programs.
- Media participation.
- More active participation by the Algerian Space Agency (ASAL) in hazard and risk mapping.
- Designation of a national focal point related to WHO's new International Sanitary Regulations.
- Implementation of strategic stocks for post disaster phases.
- Training program for the promotion and extension of relief action among the general public.

## **1.2 Development Agenda Post-2015 (Post-MDGs) and proposed Sustainable Development Goals relating to disaster issues:**

The development agenda post-2015 should be based on the achievements of the MDGs in the framework of sustainable development and poverty eradication. The Intergovernmental Group (open-ended) responsible for defining the SDG should include the integration of DRR as a goal to be achieved.

## **2. IMPORTANT ISSUES RAISED IN THE MID-TERM EVALUATION AND HFA FIRST CONSULTATION:**

### **2.1 Actions on the integration of DRR into development planning:**

- The answer is yes (emphasis was placed on integrating DRR).
- Overall it was a success, for example :
- The integration of DRR into the national land zoning plan (SNAT), as well as regional (SEPT) and local plans (PAW, PDAU and POS).
- Updating the earthquake-resistant regulations in the design and execution of buildings, and enactment of seismic rules for roads and highways structures.

### **2.2 Progress made by the government to link DRR to climate change:**

- The link between climate change adaptation and DRR has been taken into consideration in some vulnerability studies such as the current study of the Wilaya of Algiers which focuses upon “vulnerability to natural risks and climate change”
- Establishment of an observation network and climate monitoring program in the steppes and oases regions using bio-indicators to measure the impact of climate change on ecosystems.
- Development of substantial programs on renewable energy.
- Regulatory and tax incentives for the development of clean fuel usage

### **2.3 Identification of best practices in land usage:**

- Answer included in section 2.1.
- Integration of SNAT in the geotechnical studies of urbanization in construction work.
- Existing management tools: SNAT, SEPT, PAW, PDAU and POS. DRR is systematically taken into consideration whenever hazard and risk assessments are carried out at related territorial level (hazard mapping, micro-zoning etc.).
- The law on planning and urbanization of 1990 (finalized and modified in 2004) bans construction in risky areas, in direct proximity to seismic faults, in the oued’s bed, and floodplains, etc...

### **2.4 Actions taken in Algeria to strengthen the resilience to disasters of hospitals and schools:**

- Hospitals and schools are classified as important buildings bound to apply superior security levels as decreed by the Algerian Earthquake Resistant Regulations (AERR), and are subject

to rigorous monitoring and control in their construction.

- Technical and regulatory provisions have been decreed for strengthening by reinforced concrete binding meshes at all school constructions located in seismic zones.
- For existing structures, rehabilitation and renewal actions are programmed in a prioritized setting. Visits to check conformity (security) of schools are regularly carried out by the civil protection services.

### **3. KEY ELEMENTS FOR THE FUTURE OF DRR**

#### **3.1 Approaches allowing DRR progress**

- Until 1990 the "intervention and recovery" approach was globally dominant. Since then, the "prevention" approach based on technical and scientific studies has been developed in a very consistent manner in many areas.
- Strengthening coordination and multi-sectoral dialogue.
- Lessons learned from the various occurring disasters (feedback)

#### **3.2 Means of integrating greater accountability in DRR:**

- Promulgation of all application texts (decrees, orders, etc...) of law 04-20 on major risks, as well as endowment of local communities with adequate resources to meet their responsibilities.
- Professionalization of stakeholders in risk management.
- Establishment of training courses and other capacity development for officials in charge of disaster risk reduction.
- Awareness, information, training and simulation exercises to test the interoperability of concerned stakeholders.
- 

#### **3.3 The three main important elements that should be addressed in the post-2015 framework for DRR:**

1. Setting up of platforms for DRR (multi-sectoral committees) at local level (Wilaya) to provide impetus and monitoring of prevention plans.
2. Building the capacities of developing countries to deal with DRR through the substantial supply of special funds by developed countries.
3. Revive the initiation of cooperative projects at the international, regional and local levels to promote DRR through real technology transfer.

To achieve these three elements, it is necessary to take into account the related aspects: training, performance, coordination of actions, pursuit of the country's development effort, and prevention sustainability.

#### **3.4 Proposed Post-2015 Framework:**

- The adoption of new HFA ("Hyogo2" from 2015 to 2025) with a new formulation, taking into consideration the 2005-2015 experience.
- Maintain and improve the same framework.
- Draw up an institutionalization charter of the framework for action by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Prevention.

#### **4. METHODOLOGY AND CONSULTATION PROCESS ON THE FRAMEWORK FOR POST-2015 DRR:**

##### **4.1 Key elements missing in the national consultation process:**

- Time necessary for reflection.
- Standardize the level of information of all stakeholders by putting emphasis on sharing information beforehand.
- Supporting documents for the national consultations should be made available to all participants sufficiently in advance.
- Communication of the specific reports to the concerned sectors.

##### **4.2 Opportunities and challenges in the national consultation process:**

- Capitalize on the lessons learned from managing and reducing risks and disasters.
- Perpetuate the sectorial contribution (overcome the discontinuity of sectorial representation).