Post-Hyogo Framework for Action discussion
for increased disaster resilience
- LET’S GET INVOLVED! -

October 5th 2012

ACT’s commitment to humanitarian principles

- ACT has top-level representation in the International Council for Voluntary Agencies (ICVA). As a member of its Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR), ACT has a voice in one of the world’s most important forums dealing with humanitarian emergency policy.

- ACT is also a member of the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP), a signatory to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief.

- It is committed to the Sphere Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response and the Global Humanitarian Platform’s Principles of Partnership.

- In ACT’s strategic plan, strategic aim number one – “sustainable development through empowerment” - includes the prioritization of risk management.

- As such, ACT has the duty and potential to influence important humanitarian policy changes for the better of the communities it serves.

About the Hyogo Framework for Action

What is the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)?
The HFA is a 10-year plan to make the world safer from natural hazards. It is the first plan to describe in detail the work required from all relevant actors to reduce the losses from disasters.

What is its overall goal?
It is to substantially reduce losses from disasters by 2015 by building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters.

Who was it developed by and agreed upon?
It was developed by the many partners needed to reduce the risks of disasters - i.e. governments, international agencies, disaster experts and many others. It was adopted by 168 Member States of the United Nations in 2005 at the World Disaster Reduction Conference.

What are the 5 priorities for action of the HFA?
1: Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation
2: Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning
3: Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels.
4: Reduce the underlying risk factors
5: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels
Meeting our disaster resilience commitments through the post-HFA framework

- ACT Alliance members have been encouraged to adopt a Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) approach in all their work “that cuts across development, emergency response, early recovery, reconstruction, and back to development”.

- ACT Alliance aims to integrate DRR into the work of its members in a systematic way, “identifying, assessing and reducing the risks of disaster with prevention, mitigation and preparedness.”

- In line with these commitments, the synthesis report of the general assembly to ACT’s newly elected governing board - at Arusha, Tanzania, in October 2010 - reaffirmed the prioritization of “preparedness, preventions, mitigation and risk reduction in all its humanitarian, development and advocacy work”.

- In order to achieve our objectives, it is important to ensure that our knowledge and experience from the field is reflected in overarching international policy framework for DRR.

- Discussions concerning the next phase of the HFA, which begins in 2015, present an ideal opportunity for ACT to meet its own DRR commitments and contribute to global DRR policy.

- This is especially so, given that the global HFA Monitor has recognized the need to strengthen DRR globally: it has indicated that progress is “weak on HFA Priority for Action 4 – reducing the underlying risk factors – which refers to the integration of disaster risk reduction into social, economic, environmental and urban development, and into planning of infrastructure projects.”

How can ACT members get involved?

- The development of a post-2015 framework for DRR is led by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). There is online discussion forum which you can join anytime!

  http://www.preventionweb.net/posthfa/dialogue/

- It is conducted on the basis of a request from the UN General Assembly; multiple resolutions providing guidance on disaster risk reduction; findings collected through the HFA Mid-Term Review process; successive country-level reporting cycles through the HFA monitor; the analysis of the Global Assessment Reports; deliberations at the Global Platforms, as well as the outcomes of regional ministerial meetings, regional and thematic platforms.

- These present a number of ways to get involved:

  a. Participate in the compilation of inputs at ACT Alliance regional consultations. The results of these will be fed into the official process of UNISDR and be presented at the Global Platform for DRR in Geneva in 2013.

  Send your views on how the post HFA framework should include from field cases!

    i. For Latin America / Caribbean: August 14-17, 2012

    ii. Asia/Pacific: November 5-8, 2012

    iii. Africa / Middle East: TBD (2013)

b. Participate in national consultation processes – the schedule differs from region to region, and from country to country. For example, the Pacific region will complete the process by September 14th 2012, but for rest of Asia, it is not yet decided. Contact UNISDR in your region to find out more about the schedules.


d. Find out who is the focal agency in your country and get involved in action survey Views from the Frontline 2013!

Contact Marcus Oxley at the Global Network of CSOs for Disaster Reduction at marcus.oxley@globalnetwork-dr.org.

e. Contact Takeshi Komino, the chair of ACT’s advisory group on humanitarian policy and practice, at takeshi@cwspa.org.pk or takeshikomino@gmail.com. Takeshi can also be reached by telephone on +66-2214 6077, by cellphone, on +66-849-109-563, or Skype, on ‘drp-komino’.

Or contact Sudhanshu S. Singh, senior program officer for Asia/Pacific and Humanitarian Response at ACT Alliance secretariat, at Sudhanshu.Singh@actalliance.org.

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