EU activities in disaster prevention and risk management

European Commission
DG Humanitarian aid and civil protection
EU disaster prevention activities

- Risk assessments: EU overview based on national risk assessments by end-2013
- Good practice guidelines: exchange of prevention practices focusing on five cross-cutting themes: governance, planning, disaster data, risk communication and information, and research and technology transfer (by late 2013)
- Disaster data study and steps towards European standards
- Mainstreaming: cohesion policy, environmental impact assessments, climate change adaptation etc.
- Project and research funding
- Peer reviews
Promoting Risk Assessment

- Risk Assessment increasingly important in EU policy making (CP, cohesion funding, solidarity clause)
- 2010 Guidelines focus on process and methods and promote **multi-hazard** risk assessments
- National risk assessments being developed by MS
- EU overview of risks 2013
- Link to research on emerging risks
Guidelines on good practice in disaster prevention

Five themes:
1. Governance
2. Planning
3. Disaster data
4. Communication and education
5. Research and technology transfer

Based on >400 ex. of good practice from 37 countries


Practices both multi-hazard and hazard specific, covering i.a. earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, storms, heat waves, droughts, forest fires and industrial accidents
Improving the knowledge base

- Disaster Data key issues: information gaps, comparability, access
- Better link policy-research
- Inclusion of more events and impacts especially economic losses
- Improved and standardized definitions and terminology for economic losses and/or damage costs, affected people, etc.
- Making more data publicly accessible
- More comparable and harmonized methodologies and data models
- Work with insurance companies, EEA (i.e. reports on the impact of disasters in EU, flood database, climate vulnerability), international partners (ISDR Desinventar tool, EU-US cooperation), research and climate change projections (JRC)
Mainstreaming prevention

- EU Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (April 2013)
- Cohesion funds (2014-2020)
- Horizon 2020
- Increased use of disaster insurance policies
  - Green Paper on insurance and disasters (April 2013)
- Integration of DRR in EU policies (i.e. Environmental Impact Assessment, nuclear safety, future EU water policy strategy, cross border health; green infrastructure; construction, critical infrastructure, off-shore safety)
Communication on Resilience (October 2012)

Post development agenda /SDGs/MDGs

Post-2015 Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA.2)

Cooperation with international partners (e.g. Japan, USA)
More information: