

11 > The Lancet says HFA – ‘a promising start’

The celebrated medical journal The Lancet published a major review of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). The article said: “Certainly, the number of countries buying into the framework’s full process has grown, from 90 in 2007, to 139 today. To date, 45 countries have reported great progress and a further 44, average-to-good progress, in complying with the framework’s requirements.”

Read more: <http://goo.gl/aWaCn>

12 > Hundreds die in building collapse

The collapse of an eight-storey garment factory in Dhaka, Bangladesh, prompted serious reflection and concern of what could happen on a wider scale in the event of an earthquake. UNISDR Head Margareta Wahlström, during meetings in Dhaka last year, had emphasized to ministers the importance of updating the National Building Code and strengthening its implementation in view of the fact that over 40 million people in Bangladesh live in seismic zones. The Rana Plaza building collapse killed 1,127 people and has left up to 2,500 with long term disabilities.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/OZq7o>

>> As of June, over 1400 have signed up to the Making Cities Resilient Campaign



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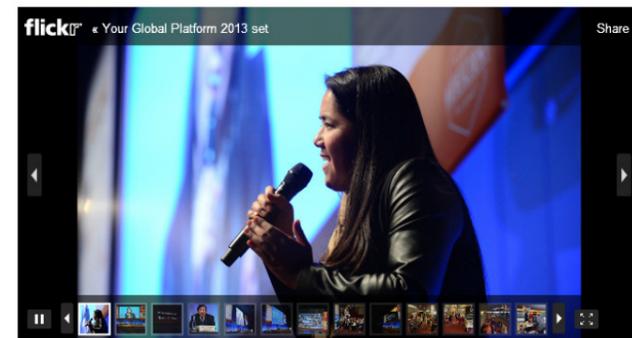
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“The number of countries buying into the [HFA] full process has grown, from 90 in 2007, to 139 today.”

“We need to enable local action, address climate risk and recognize the central roles of both the scientific community and the private sector...”



Download the 2013 Global Platform Chair's Summary, Communique from the High-Level Dialogue and watch the opening ceremony, official statements, featured events, and other recorded sessions here: <http://www.preventionweb.net/go/gpdr13>



To request high-resolution photos from the 2013 Global Platform, contact UNISDR's Communication Team (unisdrcomms@un.org).

www.unisdr.org

1 > GP call for targets

The 4th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, attended by a record 3,500 people and representatives from 172 governments, ended with a call for “the immediate start of work to develop targets and indicators to monitor the reduction of risk” in the Chair's Summary.

Chair, Martin Dahinden, Director-General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, said: ‘This Global Platform confirmed that the process to develop a successor to the existing global agreement on disaster risk reduction, the Hyogo Framework for Action or HFA, is well underway.

“There is consensus that the new instrument should build on the HFA and introduce the necessary innovations to address the challenges of increasing risk over the next 20 to 30 years. We need to enable local action, address climate risk and recognize the central roles of both the scientific community and the private sector which were both very present at this Global Platform.”

For more, visit: <http://goo.gl/CYwzf>

2 > World Conference for Sendai

Sendai City has been selected to host the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015. Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Yoshitami Kameoka said the city, which was badly affected by the 2011 earthquake, and the whole of Japan were looking forward to sharing their recent experiences and knowledge of disaster risk reduction.

For more, visit: <http://goo.gl/dOkRn>

3 > UN Sasakawa Award Winners

Bangladesh and Brazil have shared the biennial UN-Sasakawa Award. Belo Horizonte, Brazil, received the Award for fostering cooperation between local residents, public utility companies and private businesses on regular inspection of potential disaster zones. The National Alliance for Risk Reduction and Response Initiative (NARRI) from Bangladesh, comprising 10 international NGOs, has developed mass media campaign materials, supported the HFA monitoring process and engaged with communities on disaster risk reduction.

For more, visit: <http://goo.gl/vibuV>

4 > Private sector pioneers

CEO of Titan America, Aris Papadopoulos, praised “pioneer” business leaders who are “coming in from the cold” to lead efforts to reduce disaster risk. “First we need to increase awareness of DRR to protect business as well as an avenue for value creation; second, we need to invest smartly in resilient city ecosystems; and third, we need a clear division of labour between the public and private sectors,” said Mr Papadopoulos, who is Chair of UNISDR's Private Sector Advisory Group.

For more, visit: <http://goo.gl/xAOpy>

Cover photo – First row from left: UN Deputy Secretary-General, Jan Eliasson, President of the Swiss Confederation, Ueli Maurer, and the UN Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction, Margareta Wahlström arriving for the opening ceremony of the Fourth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Since 2005, 121 countries have enacted legislation to establish frameworks for disaster risk reduction, 191 countries have established HFA focal points and 86 countries have set up National Platforms.



5 > Prof Shinichi Takemura demonstrates the Tangible Earth.

6 >

Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action

SUMMARY OF REPORTS 2007-2013



8 > India holds the first session of its National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

5 > The resilient future

Young people demanded more action on their two-year old Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction. Several people were moved to tears during the testimony of 11-year-old Danh from Vietnam who recounted his experience as a disabled child when his village was flooded. With 30 per cent of the world's population aged below 18 the youth panel implored global leaders to engage much more with young people.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/DWZ7R>

City mayors urged national and international leaders to invest more at the local level to transform expanding urban areas into safe and resilient 21st century cities. Fifty-plus mayors were united in their message: 'The future of this planet will be decided at the local level'. A packed forum was told: 'If we get it wrong the results will be catastrophic'.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/Mm5fj>

The inventor of the world's first interactive digital globe that graphically depicts the vulnerability of our planet to disasters challenged global policymakers to tackle the growing risks facing populations worldwide. 'What is important is not the technology but our vision for the future of the planet,' said Prof Shinichi Takemura, who demonstrated how users of tablets and smartphones can link to an interactive digital version of the new 2013 Global Assessment Report.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/t70hC>

College sophomore Sam Johnson's Facebook campaign to mobilize young volunteers to help in the wake of the 2010 and 2011 Christchurch earthquakes has sparked a national and potentially global phenomenon. Johnson now wants to extend his 8,000-plus strong 'Volunteer Army Foundation' beyond New Zealand's borders and build a worldwide movement for resilience.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/re3NS>

6 > HFA Update

UNISDR released the most detailed account yet of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). Since 2005, 121 countries have enacted legislation to establish frameworks for disaster risk reduction, 191 countries have established HFA focal points and 86 countries have set up National Platforms. Almost 90 percent report the integration of disaster risk reduction in some form within public investment and planning decisions but resourcing the frameworks and principles to become operational remains a challenge.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/w5hyk>

>> New Risk Award

A new 2014 RISK Award 'Disaster Emergency – Resilience for the Most Vulnerable' will include a grant of €100,000 for a project in disaster emergency planning that focuses on the most vulnerable. The deadline for applications is 31 December 2013.

For more, visit: <http://goo.gl/uwECf>

7 > Call to private sector

The United Nations issued a stark warning to the world's business community that economic losses linked to disasters are "out of control" and will continue to escalate unless disaster risk management becomes a core part of business investment strategies.

At the official launch of the 2013 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction, UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, said: "We have carried out a thorough review of disaster losses at national level and it is clear that direct losses from floods, earthquakes and drought have been under-estimated by at least 50 percent. So far this century, direct losses from disasters are in the range of \$2.5 trillion.

"Economic losses from disasters are out of control and can only be reduced in partnership with the private sector which is responsible for 70 to 85 percent of all investment worldwide in new buildings, industry and small to medium sized enterprises." The ground-breaking report from UNISDR is entitled From Shared Risk to Shared Value: The Business Case for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/C8dWA>

8 > India's New National Platform

Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh heralded a new era of disaster management at the launch of his country's new National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. 'This is an area of vital national importance. India is vulnerable to a range of natural and man-made

disasters. Climate change has posed fresh new challenges that our disaster management strategies should be able to cope with,' the Prime Minister said.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/IVm8L>

9 > UK government welcomes first-ever HFA peer review

The UK became the first country to undergo a peer review of its progress in implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). The review confirmed a high level of preparedness and that the UK is continuing to build resilience to mitigate the impact of disasters. It said the authorities 'at all levels have an understanding of the medium-term risks that they face as well as the ability to identify emerging risks over the shorter and medium-long terms'.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/3l0Ql>

10 > EU strategy on climate change

The European Union's new strategy on adaptation to climate change warns adverse impacts are increasingly evident. Apart from the loss of lives, livelihoods and material damage, the financial cost of not addressing this phenomenon would be astronomical, the strategy says. Only 15 of the 27 EU member countries have climate change adaptation strategies.

Read more: <http://goo.gl/3Gi2Y>