Progress on Global Platform Chair's Summaries

2007-2011

UNISDR

<p align="center">**Progress on Global Platform Chair's Summaries 2007-2011**</p>

1. Background

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) is the UN entity responsible for coordinating the organization of Global Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction.[1] The Global Platform is a biennial forum for stakeholders to exchange information, share experience and lessons on good practice, identify gaps and recommend action to accelerate implementation of the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters* (HFA).

Since the first session in 2007, the Global Platform has become widely recognized as the international forum for disaster risk reduction and for the provision of strategic guidance for the implementation of the HFA. The first (2007), second (2009) and third (2011) sessions of the Global Platform have seen progressive participation by more than 163 governments and 162 organizations.[2]

The Chair's Summary is the outcome document of the Global Platform and represents an assessment of the key issues and calls for action expressed by the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) through the participants at the platform. The Chair's Summary is also informed by outcomes of regional and national platforms, as well as reporting on the Hyogo Framework of Action, the evidence produced by the *Global Assessment Report* (GAR)[3], and on-going work of stakeholders and partners on disaster risk reduction and building resilience as expressed at Global Platforms. Proceedings are also produced at each session of the Global Platform.

2. Purpose

Participants of the Third Session of the Global Platform in 2011 requested follow-up and reporting regarding progress made in key areas identified in the 2011 Chair's Summary. The present report is being prepared in view of the Fourth Session of the Global Platform to be held from 19 to 23 May 2013.[4] The report is based interviews and consultations with international organisations, representatives from civil society, NGOs private sector, scientists/researchers and others.[5] The report also used material from the Hyogo Framework of Action monitoring tool. The aim is not to cover all that has happened in

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[1] GA Resolution 61/198, 2006 called for the adoption by governments of the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015* and the convening of Global Platforms as a successor mechanism to the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction.

[2] The Third session of the Global Platform in 2011 with the World Bank's World Reconstruction Conference comprised 2,600 delegates representing 163 governments, 25 inter-governmental organizations, 65 NGOs, local government, parliamentarians, private sector, academia, civil society and international organizations.

[3] http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2011/

[4] Chair's Summary, paragraph 10: *"The Third Session of the Global Platform closed with a call for strengthened global leadership to address rapidly increasing risk to stability and sustainability posed by our approach to development. This Chair's Summary will be followed-up and reported on in the Fourth Session of the Global Platform."*

[5] Some 30 international organizations and 12 NGOs and representatives from civil society were interviewed and consulted. UNISDR also used initiatives and advice from support groups for disaster risk reduction which include the private sector, members of the scientific community, parliamentarians and mayors.

reducing disaster risk, but more to get a flavour and some examples of the impact of the Chair's Summary of the Global Platform. Other documents and publications like the *Global Assessment Report 2013*[6]; *Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action Summary of Reports 2007–2013*; the *Synthesis Report of the Consultations of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (HFA2)*; and the *Regional Compendium 2012-2013* provide material and evidence of progress.

This report highlights some of the results, impacts and achievements that originated in Global Platforms. The report has a retrospective section of the three Global Platforms to date, followed by a more detailed analysis of the action items of the Chair's Summary of the Third Session of the Global Platform in 2011.

3. Retrospective

Each successive Global Platform has shown significant progress in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA)[7] from stakeholders (including local and national governments, international institutions, intergovernmental organizations, regional bodies, civil society, the private sector, parliamentarians, grassroots organizations, youth, scientific and academic communities). The Global Platform has been the place to showcase new innovations, reflect on progress, take stock of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), and set directions for the future.

First Session of Global Platform 2007

The First Session in 2007 fully endorsed the Global Platform as the multi-stakeholder mechanism for assessing progress on the HFA. Calls for action in this session focused on increased investment in disaster risk reduction by governments, UN and public-private partnerships, climate change adaptation through the HFA as a key strategy, addressing growing urban risk in mega cities, women as major change agents, coordination of partners advocacy and education and scaling up of proven practices to support systemic approaches at regional and national levels. The First Session in 2007 called for stakeholders to set and support targets to be achieved through investment in disaster risk reduction. The early work on schools and hospitals at the local government level started to coalesce into what is now the Making Cities Resilient Campaign.[8]

Second Session of the Global Platform 2009

The Chair's Summary of the Second Session of the Global Platform held in 2009 highlighted progress especially in the areas of advocacy, setting goals for safety of schools and hospitals, and scaling up on investment and tools for assessing risk such as the HFA monitor tool and risk knowledge through the Global Assessment Report. Importantly, the Second Session in 2009 set directions for national risk assessments on all schools and hospitals and equal measures for cities. In addition, targets were proposed:

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[6] http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/

[7] http://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/hfa

[8] http://www.unisdr.org/campaign/resilientcities/

the equivalent of 10% of humanitarian relief funds to disaster risk reduction work with 10% proposed to come from post-disaster reconstruction and national preparedness and 1% from national development assistance funding. These have provided guidance for resource allocation (and in particular official development assistance – ODA) towards disaster risk reduction.

The clear message from the participants at the Second Session was a threefold commitment: to support increased investment; to link disaster risk reduction to climate change adaptation frameworks in the broader context of poverty reduction; and, to support UNISDR in providing strong guidance on monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the HFA. In addition, a variety of innovations were proposed at this session such as incentives for retrofitting, risk transfer tools, private sector engagement and linkages with climate adaptation financing and direct resourcing of local initiatives.

Third Session of the Global Platform 2011

The Third Session of the Global Platform in 2011 demonstrated increased political support, as well as significant higher interest in disaster risk reduction. Over 2600 participants attended – more than double the size of previous platforms. The Chair's Summary highlighted the commitment of participants to the preservation and protection of disaster risk reduction within sustainable development for future generations. Strongly supported was increased political and economic investment and with new and emerging actors to help implement the Hyogo Framework of Action. More in-depth links were made to the climate change adaptation and development agendas.

The *Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action* in 2011 was presented at the Third Session of the Global Platform. The Mid-Term Review pointed out that "HFA implementation is uneven across the world and reflects broader economic and institutional differences among regions and countries, highlighting the reality that progress takes place against very different initial baselines and capacities". Equally, perception as to achievements on implementation of the HFA depended on the assessor and the methods used to evaluate progress.

At the Third Session, participants identified several actions reflected in the Chair's Summary to push forward on reducing risk. These included commitments to: promote disaster risk reduction in international processes; work on regional and national platforms for disaster risk reduction; promote local action and resilient cities; scale-up community health forces; use more evidence, technology and risk information to implement and guide risk reduction efforts; acknowledge and work with leaders and actors for change; promote better governance and work with parliamentarians; continue to integrate disaster risk reduction with climate change and sustainable development; work on standards and indicators; seek more resources; and a set of actions around improving coordination of recovery and reconstruction measures as part the World Reconstruction Conference that was integrated into the Third Session of the Global Platform.

4. Third Session of the Global Platform 2011: Chair's Summary Action Points

The following outlines some of the progress made in key substantive areas identified in the Chair's Summary of the Third Session of the Global Platform in 2011. The Report compiles input from several key partners and through UNISDR's coordination work in disaster risk reduction. The Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction had a number of interlinked components. Indeed, a number of actions were dispersed through and integrated into the main points of the Chair's Summary. In order to present a follow-up and progress, the report has ten sections of which related action paragraphs are included from the Chair's Summary of the Third Session.

(i) Disaster Risk Reduction Represented in International Processes

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary:

Paragraph 8.13: Welcome the continued work of the Advisory Group for the Mid-Term Review of Hyogo Framework in advising on the follow-up to the Global Platform and contributing to the formulation of a post-2015 instrument, the first outline of which is to be reviewed in 2013 and finalized in 2014.

Paragraph 8.15: Ensure attention to disaster risk reduction in upcoming meetings, such as the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference in Indonesia, Rio+20, UNFCCC mechanisms, the 6th World Urban Forum and the Aid-Effectiveness Meeting in 2011. Support implementation of the Millennium Development Goals by promoting risk reduction strategies that protect development investments.

An Advisory Group on a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (HFA2) was established in 2012, including many of the members of the Advisory Group for the Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework of Action. The Advisory Group on HFA2 has met several times since to provide advice and guidance on the consultations on HFA2 and on the Fourth Session of the Global Platform.

The Fourth Session of the Global Platform marks the end of the first phase of consultations on HFA2. Over 70 consultation events and dialogues have so far been held among all stakeholders at various levels (local, national and regional); reports on each are on an interactive website; working papers have been arranged; and a *Synthesis Report* on the consultations to date has been produced for the Fourth Session. The process is on track to review a draft of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (HFA2) with a view to finalizing in late 2014.

In terms of placing disaster risk reduction into international processes, some important outcomes have been achieved since 2011. Disaster risk reduction was recognized as core to the *Future We Want* – the outcome document of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012.[9] Disaster risk reduction and building

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[9] See A/RES/66/288 - *The Future We Want*, articles 165-168 at http://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/2302358.29949379.html

resilience will be imperative for any future development agenda. Several think pieces were produced and references were made in outcome documents of a number of processes related to the *Future We Want*.

Links are being made between disaster risk reduction and the development paradigm through the discussions and consultations on the post-2015 development agenda (for example, the Global Thematic Consultations on Conflict, Violence and Disasters in April 2013 in Helsinki). In addition, disaster risk reduction has been closely aligned with the *Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation* in 2011.[10]

Progress has been made in integrating disaster risk reduction into the climate change agenda. Globally and regionally connections made between reducing risk of disasters and the mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The Pacific Region for example, has completely integrated their approach to climate change and disaster risk reduction. There has also been further work on disaster risk reduction at the Conference of Parties (COPs) of the Framework Convention on Climate Change in Durban in 2011 (COP-17) and in Doha in 2012 (Cop-18) following the decision in Cancun in 2010 (COP-16) to adopt the Cancun Adaptation Framework under the Convention while specifically referenced the Hyogo Framework of Action as an existing mechanism to build on.

A special event on managing disaster risk, the Sendai Dialogue, was co-hosted by the Government of Japan and the World Bank as part of the Annual Meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group in October 2012.[11] The *Sendai Report: Managing Disaster Risks for a Resilient Future* – an official Development Committee paper for the 2012 Annual Meetings, informed the dialogue along with a series knowledge notes. The World Bank continues to be a major funder of disaster risk reduction and reconstruction activities. More than two-thirds of the World Bank's country partnership strategies have started to include disaster risk management with the goal of incorporating it into all country strategies.

The ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) Conference in Bonn in June 2012, and the World Urban Forum in Naples in September 2012 were also important events for promoting and profiling disaster risk reduction and building resilience through the mayors of cities and local government. The latter are key stakeholders in reducing risk.

In the United Nations, the April 2013 Chief Executive Board approved a new *UN Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience*. The plan outlines three commitments; one is supporting countries where disaster losses pose a threat; another is to make disaster risk reduction a priority for the UN system and its organizations; and, the third is to ensure disaster risk reduction for resilience is central to post-2015 development agreements and targets.

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[10] http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/busanpartnership.htm
[11] http://www.worldbank.org/pos/specialevent.html

<u>(ii) Regional and National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction</u>

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary:

Paragraph 6: Regional organizations reaffirmed their commitment to implementing regional strategies agreed to in ministerial meetings worldwide.

Paragraph 7.6: Build on the work of and linkages between national and regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, strengthening in particular, multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Paragraph 7.7: Promote the role of regional and sub-regional organizations in coordinating implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Paragraph 8.7: Provide guidance to National Platforms to improve the effectiveness and support the executive level of decision-making.

Regional platforms support and coordinate partnerships based on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) networks of regional intergovernmental organizations, national governments, disaster management authorities, civil society, academia, and regional centres of excellence. Regional platforms further support sub-regional and national initiatives. They progressed significantly since 2011 in attracting a wider audience and commitment to the implementation of the *Hyogo Framework of Action*. A feature of regional platforms has been the mobilizing of local government and local action (see the *Regional Compendium 2012-2013* for an overview).

The increasing number of national platforms and national level focal points for disaster risk reduction and the reporting on the Hyogo Framework of Action has gone hand in hand with a growing awareness of the important of implementing national strategies or plans for disaster risk reduction. As of April 2013, there are 83 formally recognized (by UNISDR) National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction. Many countries acknowledge that, for national development planning and strategies, high-level support to disaster risk reduction is essential, particularly including regular budget support.

There have also been some interesting developments across a number of national platforms. To name a few initiatives, the United Kingdom undertook a peer review of its own national platform and, as a result, is modifying and improving the scope and direction of its national work on disaster risk reduction and building resilience. The Czech Republic created a local and regional outreach branch of its national platform. Nine provinces are now members of the National Platform in South Africa. The Cayman Islands National Platform created over 16 subcommittees related to reducing disaster risk. In Ecuador, the National Platform is helping to decentralize responsibility and resources for disaster risk management to the municipal and parish levels.

These and other practices are part of providing further guidance to national platforms as requested by the Third Session of the Chair's Summary in 2011. Over 2012 and 2013, a

review of the capacity of national platforms has been conducted.[12] Some 50 national platforms from across all regions have responded to the requests for information in the review. The early findings and further consultations on the review of national platforms will be held at the Fourth Session of the Global Platform in May 2013.

<u>(iii) Local Action and Resilient Cities</u>

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary

Paragraph 3: Half of humanity is now living in cities. By 2050 urbanization will rise to 70 percent and urban risk will increase as well. Risk is further driven by factors such as rural and urban poverty, climate change, declining ecosystems and development choices including energy infrastructure.

Paragraph 6: Mayors renewed their commitment to the Ten Essentials of the "My City is Getting Ready" Campaign.

Paragraph 7.1: Support local governments and non-state actors as the front line of risk reduction implementation.

Paragraph 8.2: The Third Session of the Global Platform identified the need to increase investment in disaster risk reduction at the local level and ensure national growth does not increase local risks. Address local action directly in national growth targets, plans and policies. Strengthen capacities of local governments and ensure resource availability. Encourage collaboration with communities and volunteers including through participatory risk assessments and local multi-stakeholder monitoring and reporting.

The Making Cities Resilient Campaign has progressed significantly over the last few years. More than 1,400 local governments have signed up to UNISDR's Making Cities Resilient Campaign since 2010. From Manila, in the Philippines to San Francisco, California, the Mayors and municipal leaders representing these cities have mobilized actions toward a common, unified approach to disaster risk reduction, based on the 'Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient'.[13] Drawn from the five priorities of the Hyogo Framework of Action, the ten essentials offer a local-level guide on both protecting and improving the lives and livelihoods of urban dwellers. While there are significant differences in the ability of local governments to cope with disasters and build resilience, there are also many similarities in the challenges they face and in their political will to invest in making their cities safer.

This political will has translated into a marked shift from awareness raising to practical action. Led by Mayors and other municipal officials, there has been a noticeable mobilization of both human and financial resources for a broad range of disaster risk

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[12]A National Platform Review Working Group has been established with Ecuador, Germany, Indonesia, Mexico, Philippines, Senegal and Sweden. A larger reference group has also been created to assist in the analysis of the review. The review is supported and financed by the Swedish National Platform and the German National Platform (DKKV) with UNISDR as secretariat assistance.
[13] http://www.unisdr.org/campaign/resilientcities/

reduction programs and activities, in the past two years since the last Global Platform. In many cases, this was achieved by the municipalities in conjunction with citizens' groups, the private sector and other key stakeholders. The *Making Cities Resilient Report 2012* documents evidence of progress across four main areas of activity, including: considering disaster risk reduction in new urban planning regulations, plans and development activities; establishing councils, committees, disaster management structures dedicated to disaster risk management, and engaging in multi-stakeholder consultations; constructing or enhancing hazard mitigating infrastructure; and establishing education and awareness training programmes.

In addition, local governments participating in the Making Cities Resilient Campaign have coordinated and executed many partnerships, both between cities and among various institutions, technical experts, private sector, and national government institutions. These efforts are supported by major networks representing cities and local governments, such as the United Cities and local Governments (UCLG) [14], Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) [15], CityNet [16] and Earthquake Megacities Initiative[17] which have adopted resolutions and declarations that have guided actions and commitment in regional and national contexts.

One example is the City Resilience Profiling Programme that was launched at the Rio+20 Conference. [18] UNHABITAT, partnering with UNISDR, has launched a call for expression of interest from cities to serve as pilot cities, where city resilience profiling will be tested and various tools to build resilience will be introduced. UNHABITAT has developed operational programmes on disaster risk reduction, emergency response and reconstruction; focused on urban emergency response through advisory services; established an internal emergency response fund; and developed new projects to reduce vulnerability in urban areas in Sri Lanka, Madagascar and Haiti. The United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)[19] is also integrating disaster risk reduction in urban areas, with a focus on slums, informal and marginal settlements.

(iv) Scaling-up Community Health Forces

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary:

Paragraph 6: A joint statement called for scaling-up community health forces as vital for disaster reduction.

At the end of 2011, more than 130 Member States reported having national plans on emergency preparedness, while 46 had active programmes for reducing the vulnerability of health facilities. As of November 2012, 40 state parties to the International Health Regulations (2005) have established the necessary core capacities.

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[14]http://www.uclg.org

[15] http://www.iclei.org

[16] http://www.citynet-ap.org

[17] http://www.emi-megacities.org

[18] http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/11638_1_594651.pdf

[19] http://www.uncrd.or.jp

The World Health Organization (WHO)[20] has been providing support to countries on making hospitals safer and better prepared for emergencies and disasters. Guidance, training and tools are available, to assess the safety and preparedness of existing health facilities (using the Hospital Safety Index[21]), and for developing new hospitals with a sufficient level of protection to remain functional and deliver health services in emergency situations.

WHO has produced an Atlas of Regional Hazards for the African, European and Eastern Mediterranean regions[22] in order to facilitate country-level risk assessments. Efforts have been made to improve global surveillance and monitoring of potential threats to health, particularly from biological, natural and technological sources (such as chemical and radiological hazards) to enable early detection and warning to prompt action by the public, health workers and other sectors.

Other partners have also been active in disaster risk reduction and health. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) [23] has assisted countries to develop food safety contingency and response plans, supporting preparedness planning and simulation exercises for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)[24] addresses the causes of vulnerability and risk through building community and system resilience focusing on health-related services to children in water, sanitation and hygiene, and nutrition. The 'Towards a Safer World' network of pandemic preparedness practitioners has also linked into the movement and practices of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR).[25]

(v) Evidence, Information, New Technology and Programmes on Disaster Risk

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary

Paragraph 7.8. Actively engage and support scientific and technical communities to inform decision-making.

Paragraph 8.8. Strengthen public awareness of disaster risks through promoting universal access to risk information, education, building social demand for disaster risk reduction and promote individual safety and responsibility. Use available communication technologies to provide clear and concise information.

Paragraph 8.9. Identify and prepare for emerging risks, including those associated with technological hazards and pandemics, through scientifically-informed multi-hazard risk

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[20] http://www.who.int

[21] http://www.paho.org/disasters/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=907&Itemid=884

[22] http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-publish/abstracts/who-e-atlas-of-disaster-risk-for-the-european-region-the.-volume-1.-exposure-to-natural-hazards.-version-2.0

[23] http://www.fao.org

[24] http://www.unicef.org

[25] http://www.towardsasaferworld.org/

assessments and scenario development. Encourage cross-sectoral cooperation that makes best use of available information and technology.

Paragraph 8.11. Ensure the availability of tailored science-based climate-related information through the Global Framework for Climate Services to support informed investment and planning at all levels.

Paragraph 8.10. Avoid the inefficient use of existing resources by ensuring technologies for risk reduction are accessible as a means for adaptation and promoting integrated approaches to development that address climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and ecosystem management and restoration.

The biennial *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction* (GAR)[26] is one of UNISDR's flagship programmes. Since its first edition in 2009, the GAR has established itself as a global reference document for improved disaster risk reduction and risk-proof development planning. A major innovation is the continued development of the multi-hazard global risk model, which is capable of generating state-of-the-art pictures of global disaster risk, along with information and metrics for risk-sensitive investment planning for governments and business, as well as for analysts and forecasters. This model will be presented in the *Global Assessment Report 2013*. The combination of this global risk model, national disaster loss databases in 56 countries (compared to 43 in 2011), and a new approach for modelling direct economic losses based on those data, will permit the most complete estimation to date of the actual cost of disasters.

Web-based platforms for easy access to early warning are aiding their implementation and use by practitioners from local communities, research centres, government institutions and universities. The PreventionWeb platform operated by UNISDR is a popular resource base for practitioners and others looking for information on disaster risk reduction. The PreventionWeb continues to grow – with over 600,000 unique visitors in 2012 – and will take on knowledge brokering role in the future.

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Group of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction is providing guidance on the role and practice of science in disaster risk reduction. The 2013 report *Using Science for Disaster Risk Reduction* brought together case studies from around the world to show how scientists and decision-makers have applied research to real-life problems to achieve real impact in disaster risk reduction.

There has been much work from organizations with programmes, evidence, technology advances, and information to support risk reduction efforts. Some examples include:

- The World Bank (Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction) Open Data for Resilience Initiative (OpenDRI)[27] to help countries better understand and manage disaster and climate risk. OpenDRI builds upon the World Bank's broader Open

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[26] http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/gar
[27] https://www.gfdrr.org/opendri

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Data Initiative and provides a mechanism for enacting the joint World Bank/United Nations 2011 report, *Natural Hazards, UnNatural Disasters – The Economics of Effective Prevention*.[28]

- A World Bank (GFDRR) Hydromet Programme[29] is supporting that service-oriented National Meteorological and Hydrological Services provide decision-support not only for managing disasters, but also for climate adaptation and optimized productivity and resilience of climate-sensitive economic sectors.

- UNDP country offices have continued to support Government capacity on disaster risk reduction through the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs). UNDP country offices are assisted in these efforts by the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) to provide political support to initiatives focused on helping countries and communities to cope and recover from disasters. UNDP Administrator, Helen Clark, is contributing to the Political Champions for Disaster Resilience, consisting of high-ranking officials from organizations including OCHA, UNDP, DFID, USAID, the World Bank, and the European Commission.

- The UNISDR Office for Northeast Asia and Global Education and Training Institute for Disaster Risk Reduction operates the Mainstreaming Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction into Development programme to strengthen capacities for integrating disaster and climate change risk management in economic and social planning. [30]

- The Government of Germany, through its work as the co-Chair of the Good Humanitarian Donor Group, emphasized the importance of disaster preparedness for response. Efforts were carried out to better link the humanitarian efforts by the international community to prepare and respond to disasters with the long term development efforts carried out by countries to strengthen their capacity to respond to disasters under the Hyogo Framework for Action. This work involved the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the mechanism for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance.

- The International Telecommunication Union (ITU)[31] has designed and developed guidelines, publications and websites that are used to train and raise awareness on disaster risk reduction issues.

  - ITU have contribute equipment and financial resources for disaster risk reduction following the signing of 20 new partnerships agreement. An action plan to accelerate the standardization work of the technical groups in support of telecommunications for disaster relief and early warning is underway.

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[28] http://publications.worldbank.org/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=23659
[29] https://www.gfdrr.org/node/860
[30] http://www.climateadaptation.cc/projects-clients/mainstreaming-adaptation-and-disaster-reduction-development/
[31] http://www.itu.int

These are instrumental specifications that will be used as a basis for implementation by manufacturers and telecom network operators of facilities supporting emergency communications.

- The radio communications sector in ITU has developed a number of guidelines used to identity appropriate systems for public protection and disaster relief, and requirements for disaster communications related to amateur-satellite services, including the use of transportable fixed radio-communications equipment for relief operations.

- United Nations Volunteers (UNV) mobilizes individuals to disseminate information, public awareness and strong community voluntary action. Tsunami Information Centres have been established and serve as an information resource that shares and distributes educational, awareness and preparedness materials and publications.

- United Nations Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT) trained over 300 professionals through specialized training in the use of space applications and geo-spatial information for disaster preparedness and response, and territorial planning for disaster risk reduction. UNOSAT is also collaborating with Universities to provide training in the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and satellite analysis for disaster management.

- UN-SPIDER Programme[32] has conducted more than 10 Technical Advisory Missions to Member States in Asia, Latin America and Africa with the support of experts from the space, the disaster risk management and the emergency response communities.

- United Nations Office for Outerspace Affairs (UNOOSA) carries out training activities to increase the skills and knowledge of staff members in government agencies responsible for disaster-risk management efforts. Such training includes developing step-by-step methodologies to make use of archived satellite imagery to track how land-use changes in recent decades have modified the spatial and temporal behaviour of floods, droughts and forest fires.

- United Nations University (UNU) carries out research in Africa, Asia and Europe on vulnerability, resilience and risk assessment. The work consists in developing new assessment concepts and frameworks, as well as assessing risks to environmental hazards.

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[32] http://www.un-spider.org

(vi) Leaders and Actors for Change

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary

Paragraph 6: Private sector participants agreed on Five Essentials for Business and issued a Statement of Commitment for Disaster Prevention, Resilience and Risk Reduction.

Paragraph 6: Young people came together to advance a Five Point Charter on Children and Disaster Reduction.

Paragraph 7.2: Draw upon the untapped potential of local actors and build on the role of women as agents of change.

Paragraph 7.3: Involve children and youth in disaster risk reduction decisions that affect their future as a practical way to ensure effective local action.

Paragraph 7.4: Fully engage the private sector as leaders in the construction of resilient infrastructure, sustainable development of urban areas, energy safety, and the protection of critical resources.

Paragraph 7.5. Build on the role that parliamentarians play in setting state policy and norms, oversight and scrutiny, legislation and the creation of enabling environments for risk reduction.

Paragraph 8.2: Encourage collaboration with communities and volunteers including through participatory risk assessments and local multi-stakeholder monitoring and reporting.

Paragraph 8.7. Ensure that responsibility for disaster risk reduction is backed by the necessary political authority to increase implementation across sectors through increased engagement with parliamentarians, local authorities and civil society.

At the Third Session of the Global Platform in 2011, private sector participants issued a *Statement of Commitment for Disaster Prevention, Resilience and Risk Reduction*[33] and agreed on 'Five Essentials for Business'. UNISDR with the Private Sector Advisory Group also created the Disaster Risk Reduction-Private Sector Partnerships Membership Pack [34] to provide guidance to businesses on how to integrate disaster risk reduction into investment and business decisions.

The private sector offers expertise, knowledge networks and reputability. Harnessing the private sector and business initiatives to reduce risk will be a critical component in the future and is why the private sector is a key theme in the 2013 Global Assessment Report and the Fourth Session of the Global Platform in May 2013.

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[33] http://www.unisdr.org/files/19873_statementofcommitmentbytheprivatese.pdf
[34] http://www.unisdr.org/2012/docs/private-sector/drrpsp_english.pdf

The Third Session of the Global Platform in 2011 recognized that children are the worst affected by disasters. The Platform launched the Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction that consists of five priorities as identified by children.[35] The Charter has been developed through consultations countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.[36] The aim is to further raise awareness of the need for a child-centred approach to disaster risk reduction, as also portrayed in the 2011 International Day for Disaster Reduction.

Through the Children's Charter, UNICEF, World Vision, Plan International and Save the Children have formed partnerships. As child-centred agencies, these organizations are committed to further children's participation in disaster risk reduction initiatives.

In 2012, UNICEF and UNESCO mapped out the integration of disaster risk reduction into education curricula of 30 countries. The major finding was that the most frequently found approach to disaster risk reduction integration is that of infusion i.e. disaster-related themes and topics are woven into specific school subjects.[37]

The Safer Communities initiative led by the International Red Cross and Red Crescents Societies (IFRC) is working at all levels – governance, policy, management and practice – to make disaster risk reduction a priority and an integral part of its development work.

Large numbers of women are working collectively to combat the adverse effects of disasters and build resilience in urban and rural areas. In 2012, the International Day for Disaster Reduction focused on role of women and girls.[38] Work is underway to strengthening capacities and coordination of women's groups and organizations, as well as promoting institutional commitments and accountability to gender-equitable risk reduction and sustainable development.

United Nations Women (UN Women) is focusing on the integration of gender equality and women's empowerment in the implementation of the new United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience, including regional programme on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management. UN Women, in collaboration with OCHA and with the support of GenCap Advisers, is organizing training to address the challenges of disaster risk reduction.

The Global Network on Disaster Reduction (GNDR)[39] brings together 1,500 civil society organizations committed to working to improve disaster risk reduction policy and practices across all levels. The GNDR has collected over 20,000 views on 'local risk

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[35] http://www.childreninachangingclimate.org/database/CCC/Publications/children_charter.pdf

[36] The consultations were conducted: by Save the Children in Cambodia, China, Dominican Republic, East Timor, Ethiopia, India, Laos, Mozambique, Philippines and Vanuatu; by World Vision in Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mexico, Nicaragua, Philippines, Tanzania and Vietnam; and in Indonesia.

[37] Disaster risk reduction is, for the most part integrated into a narrow band of subjects, typically in the physical and natural sciences, although there are examples of its appearance across a wider range of subjects. There are a limited number of examples of disaster risk reduction appearing as the primary focus within a new subject area. Moreover, there is little evidence of cross-curricular linkages being forged or of an interdisciplinary approach being adopted.

[38] http://www.unisdr.org/we/campaign/iddr

[39] http://www.globalnetwork-dr.org

governance' and a range of video case studies providing Views from the Frontline.[40] These have influenced the focus of disaster risk reduction to the local community level.

Volunteers working in emergency services, preparedness other community prevention roles are vital to raising awareness of the importance and value of disaster risk reduction. The work of volunteers is continuing to make sure that local level activities are sustainable.

Parliamentarians present the legislative voice for the integration of disaster risk reduction. The network of parliamentarians has increased since the Third Session and a Parliamentarian Advisory Group has been created. Building the role that parliamentarians play in setting state policy and norms, oversight and scrutiny, legislation and the creation of enabling environments for risk reduction is critical for the future governance and accountability measures of reducing risk and building resilience.

(vii) Disaster Reduction, Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary

Paragraph 7: The choice before us as Governments, institutions, communities and individuals is to place disaster risk reduction at the forefront of our efforts to preserve and protect the balance of nature, ensure sustainable development and well-being for generations to come.

Paragraph 8.10: Avoid the inefficient use of existing resources by ensuring technologies for risk reduction are accessible as a means for adaptation and promoting integrated approaches to development that address climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and ecosystem management and restoration.

Paragraph 8.11: Incorporate, as well, integrated drought management, wild land fire management and food security in risk reduction policies and development planning.

Paragraph 8.12: Adapt innovative social protection and ecosystem management mechanisms to reduce disaster impacts based on understanding of the dynamics of vulnerability and ensuring protection of the most vulnerable households, communities and social groups.

Among the highlights of UNISDR's efforts to strengthen the linkages between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation was the formal launch of the *Special Report on Managing the Risk of Extremes and Disasters* (SREX) which the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued in May 2012.[41] The SREX report demonstrates how integrating expertise in disaster risk management, climate science and climate change adaptation can help reduce and manage the risks of extreme events and disasters.

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[40] http://www.globalnetwork-dr.org/views-from-the-frontline/
[41] Available at ipcc-wg2.gov/SREX/

Prominence of disaster risk reduction and linkages with the Hyogo Framework of Action was further boosted at the 17th and 18th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Durban in 2011 and Doha in 2012 respectively.[42] Disaster risk reduction is manifested in the work of the UNFCCC Work Programme on loss and damages and the newly established UNFCCC Adaptation Committee. Future National Adaptation Plans, for example, are to use the Hyogo Framework for Action to ensure disaster risk reduction is complemented.

The linkages between climate change and disaster risk reduction feature strongly in the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO)[43] new Global Framework for Climate Services.[44] The Framework comprises four priority areas – health, water, food security, and disaster risk reduction (which UNISDR will lead). This prominence is already triggering changes at country level. In Mozambique, for example, the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services are now working more closely with disaster risk managers, the private sector, and with the National and Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The integration of climate and disaster risks has been among the most consistent efforts. The Pacific region in particular has been successful in treating climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction under the same regional action and planning. More efforts are being made at the national level to consolidate risk reduction and climate change adaptation approaches, introducing them into development and economic planning, recovery and sector level activities.

Environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity and unsustainable use of natural resources, drought, green jobs, and food security continue to be identified as pressing concerns. Progress has been made on several fronts on these issues including through:

- The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)[45] that assists countries to implement ecosystem-based adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability and build ecological and social resilience to climate change risks. UNEP has developed sustainable building guidelines through its Sustainable Buildings and Climate Initiative.

- A Green Jobs Initiative which is led by ILO/UNEP/ITUC/IOE and the work done by OHCHR to collaborate with governments and other partners to integrate human rights in national disaster risk reduction plans.

- The recognition that desertification/land degradation and drought are inherently linked with numerous other issues and related approaches. Recognizing these inter-linkages tends to generate significant benefits, from local to global level.

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[42] http://unfccc.int/files/bodies/cop/application/pdf/prov_agenda_cop_18.pdf
[43] http://www.wmo.int
[44] http://www.wmo.int/pages/gfcs/
[45] http://www.unep.org

- The work done by FAO, UNHABITAT, UN-OHRLLS [46] and the WFP on information and early warning systems on food and nutrition security and trans-boundary threats to ensure countries are better equipped with data and information, and analytical capacity, to take decision and anticipate and prevent food crises.

- The WFP that is supporting the development of social protection mechanisms aimed at reducing the impact of disasters on livelihoods and food security. For example, in Uganda, a the Karamoja Productive Assets Programme is providing food assistance to meet seasonal needs while at some time building assets which improve water availability for agricultural and livestock production and reduce the impact of drought on the most vulnerable.

- The UNCRD Disaster Management Planning Programme which is working on issues such as Community-Based Disaster Management, the school earthquake safety initiative, and the housing earthquake safety initiative to help with building code implementation and developing guidelines for repairing, restoring and seismic retrofitting of core community buildings.

- UNESCO that has developed community self-assessment tools and educational and awareness-raising materials that integrate local and indigenous knowledge with science with disaster risk reduction. UNESCO also supported countries in simulating evacuation drills at schools and trained the teachers on the appropriate evacuation measures.

(viii) Standards and Indicators

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary

Paragraph 8.3: Develop standards and indicators for measuring the effectiveness of disaster risk reduction at both the national and regional levels to guide public and private sector investments and improve quality and consistency in implementation.

Paragraph 8.4: Account for disaster losses in a standardized manner to support multi-hazard, integrated assessments as the basis for development decision-making and open-source risk public information.

Standards related to a variety of risk related have been worked on since 2011. For example, in more than 25 countries, WFP supports governments to implement advanced food security monitoring systems to track food security, nutrition, market indicators and natural hazards. The aim is to provide analysis to support disaster preparedness, prevention and response, including through the activation of national social protection programmes and safety nets in support of the most vulnerable.

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[46] Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

WHO Regional Offices are guided in their work on emergency and disaster risk management by regional documentation, such as Benchmarks, Standards and Indicators Emergency Preparedness and Response (South-East Asia).

The Guidelines on Data Issues in Humanitarian Crisis Situations of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)[47] focus on sources of data, their strengths, shortfalls and uses, and provide a list of vital indicators that could be used to better appraise risks and vulnerabilities, and identify target populations and institutions for more effective disaster risk reduction strategies.

At the ITU, technical standards provide call preference schemes for the Public Switched Telephone Network and for systems based on Internet Protocol. ITU is also developing message broadcasting specification using Internet protocol technologies, and is paying special attention to support of emergency and alert services in Next Generation Networks. ITU has approved a telecommunication security architectural framework, which is applicable to TDR/EW systems (ITU-T Rec.X.805), and a supplement on emergency services for third-generation mobile networks.

ITU has developed technical and spectrum specifications that provide best practices in resilient telecommunications, including a Handbook on Outside Plant Installations explaining prioritization of calls, inter-operability of networks, and harmonization of frequency bands.

(ix) Resourcing

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary:

Paragraph 7: Strengthen and resource UNISDR to support the implementation of recommendations from this Platform acknowledging its leadership role within the United Nations on disaster risk reduction.

Paragraph 8.5: Increase dedicated budget allocations for disaster risk reduction by using risk assessment, budgetary planning and project evaluation mechanisms, in all development investments. Create incentives for investing in prevention. Protect public finances with contingency mechanisms, including insurance.

Paragraph 8.6: Track investments in disaster risk reduction to provide clear evidence of the costs and benefits of investments through verifiable and accountable data to Governments and the public and as a further means of promoting aid-effectiveness.

UNISDR is extra-budgetary funded apart from one post covered by the UN regular budget since 2012. In the 2010-2011 biennium, total income amounted to USD 53.9 million. In order to service the greater international interest in disaster risk reduction and resilience, and to finance the consultations for the HFA2, UNISDR established a budget

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[47] http://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/publications/2010/guidlines_dataissues.pdf

target of USD 64.9 million for the 2012-2013 biennium. UNISDR continues to work on enlarging its sustainable resource base.

Resources for reducing the risk of disasters largely come from national budgets. Resources are often embedded in planning and development from a variety of refunding streams (for example climate change adaptation activities, more resilient buildings, early warning systems, urban development improvements). This makes it difficult to accurately estimate how much resources are devoted to disaster risk reduction.

UNISDR in collaboration with the European Union and the Asian Development Bank piloted work in eight countries to develop a common methodology to account for and monitor disaster risk reduction in public investment. The European Union's Directorate for Development and Cooperation in 2012 also launched a three-year initiative to support up to 40 countries in risk-proofing their public investments.

At the international level, a commitment was made at the fourth *High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness* in Busan support and increase financing for disaster risk reduction from development budgets. The OECD Development Assistance Committee has since adopted a dedicated programme of work on disaster risk and resilience as part of development cooperation. A new Disaster Aid Tracking initiative by the World Bank and OECD aims to enhance the quality of disaster aid information by identifying more than 55,000 disaster-related aid flows over the past 30 years and aligning them with HFA priorities and OECD's Creditor Reporting System purpose codes. The initiative also has also a web-based dashboard with data for reporting and decision-making.[48]

Recurrent humanitarian crises, such as in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel, has forced the international humanitarian community to re-assess how to alleviate continued human suffering and how to allocate the USD 13 billion spent on humanitarian interventions, of which just over 1% is spent on preventing and preparing for disasters.[49]

The G20 Summit in Los Cabos, Mexico in June 2012 highlighted the importance of disaster risk management as an integral part of development policy to reflect the concern regarding the dramatic increase in losses due to natural disasters in both developed and developing countries. The Government of Mexico and the World Bank released a joint report entitled *Improving the Assessment of Disaster Risks to Strengthen Financial Resilience*[50] with analysis on how to protect populations and assets against losses from adverse natural events.

The World Bank has helped establish a number of national and regional catastrophe risk insurance programmes to help transfer disaster risk from the government to the financial market. The World Bank also provides advisory services to countries on disaster risk

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[48] http://gfdrr.aiddata.org

[49] Kellet and Sweeney, *Analysis of Financing Mechanisms and Funding Streams to Enhance Emergency Preparedness*, Development Initiatives, 2011.

[50] https://www.gfdrr.org/G20DRM

financing and insurance to help build financial resilience to disasters. Regional initiatives also contribute to the development of market-based catastrophe risk insurance.

(x) World Reconstruction Conference

Third Session Global Platform, Chair's Summary

Paragraph 9.1: Recognized that support to countries overwhelmed by the scale and cost of post-disaster reconstruction is often inadequately coordinated. Uneven and unpredictable financing does not always reach those who need it. Few countries incorporate disaster prevention into reconstruction and recovery planning, thus threatening development prospects and sustainability of investments.

Paragraph 9.2: Recognized, based on lessons from previous experience, that well-planned and coordinated recovery achieves better results at lower cost, and supports sustainability and disaster-resilience. Leadership, partnership and coordinated support from the international community are essential to success.

Paragraph 9.3: Committed to developing an effective recovery and reconstruction framework. This recovery framework would aim to:
- *Better define roles and responsibilities within clear institutional arrangements;*
- *Effectively capitalize on the strengths of each stakeholder;*
- *Clearly place countries in the driver's seat on decision-making and resource allocation;*
- *Systematically integrate disaster risk reduction in reconstruction and recovery;*
- *Provide in-time relevant knowledge and lessons learned; and*
- *Assist in establishing robust and transparent quality and result monitoring systems.*

Paragraph 9.4: Committed to developing improved systems and instruments for recovery and reconstruction finance and welcomed the leadership of the World Bank and the role of other international financial institutions in this effort. These mechanisms would provide access to reliable reconstruction financing; build capacity to manage the surge of resources; effectively integrate the resources of non-traditional donors; and access the global capital market.

Paragraph 9.5: Promoted a global reconstruction and recovery knowledge practice, linking practitioners and networks working on reconstruction and recovery to provide open access to data and information.

The World Reconstruction Conference[51], as part of the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, emphasized and recommended the development of an internationally applicable recovery framework tool to assist governments in achieving resilient recovery. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, and the European Commission are working with stakeholders and with case studies to develop practices that policy makers and other partners can use to inform a resilient recovery. The manifestation of this work is a Post Disaster Needs Assessment Guide and Disaster Recovery Framework planned to be launched in 2014.

The World Bank plays an important role in providing and continuously improving financial instruments for recovery and reconstruction. The World Bank's crisis and emergency response operational policies and procedures have evolved in order to enhance flexibility, speed and effectiveness. The new policy allows for rapid mobilization by recognizing upfront the inherent risks involved in working in emergency situations, including the risks and lost opportunities associated with a delayed response.

UNOPS has developed a sustainable infrastructure policy, which reflects its commitment to ensuring that all of its work adheres to and promotes the highest possible international standards and quality. UNOPS has managed the design and construction of infrastructure projects, such as schools, roads, bridges and hospitals to the highest standards, able to withstand extreme weather events. In Afghanistan, for example, villagers have been taught how to limit flooding by building retaining walls.

The International Recovery Platform (IRP)[52], established in Kobe, Hyogo in 2005, continues to serve as the international repository of knowledge and a networking mechanism for recovery. The IRP supports the strategic goal of the Hyogo Framework for Action to integrate risk reduction in the post-disaster recovery and reconstruction efforts. The IRP has close links with the World Bank's GFDRR to support the capacity for the management of disaster recovery for national governments.

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[51] https://www.gfdrr.org/node/338
[52] http://www.recoveryplatform.org

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