

## **Italy**

## National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2013-2015)

Name of focal point: Mr Luigi D'Angelo

Organization: National Civil Protection Department

Title/Position: HEAD OF UNIT

E-mail address: ddritaly@protezionecivile.it

Telephone: 0039 6 68202911

Reporting period: 2013-2015

Report Status: Final

Last updated on: 15 May 2015 Print date: 15 May 2015

Reporting language: English

A National HFA Monitor update published by PreventionWeb http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/progress/reports/

#### **Outcomes**

## Strategic Outcome For Goal 1

#### **Outcomes Statement**

Italy has performed several activities aimed to strengthen DRR coordination in the country, by promoting the elaboration of a national strategy on DRR to reinforce the incorporation of cross-sectoral disaster risk considerations and practices into framework policies, local planning and programming.

Many of these activities have been performed in the framework of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction to ensure consistent policy coordination, identification of gaps and best practices, as well as proposing improvements to the different Ministers.

Other activities were addressed directly to local administrations through the promotion of the "Making Cities Resilient" campaign and the elaboration of guidance

## **Strategic Outcome For Goal 2**

#### **Outcomes Statement**

Efforts made towards the development of a more coordinated and comprehensive approach to disaster risk reduction and connected topics lead to the definition of more detailed procedures and practices for the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

A wider participation of local authorities has been promoted through a stronger involvement of the Association of Italian Local Authorities (ANCI) and Regional Administrations in activities performed in the framework of the National Platform. The existing Civil Protection Law (n. 225 of 1992) has been updated through Law n. 100 of 2012 which has given territories, and in particular Regional administrations, moreresponsibility on disaster prevention and post-disaster recovery. Specific initiatives have been undertaken in order to promote business continuity management at local level.

## **Strategic Outcome For Goal 3**

#### **Outcomes Statement**

A variety of activities aimed to promote further integration of disaster risk reduction concepts and approaches into all most relevant national and local policies have been performed. A strong effort is being made towards reinforcing urban planning in the

context of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, through tailored communication and information campaigns realized in the framework of existing laws and regulations. A specific debate is being promoted with relevant national ministries and agencies in order to strengthen consistency and suitability of relevant laws and regulations.

## Strategic goals

## **Strategic Goal Area 1**

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

#### Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

A strong effort is being made in order to reinforce integration of environmental risk management strategies into development policies and plans. Disaster reduction, prevention, mitigation, preparedness and management policies are constantly improved through local-national exchanges, lessons learned, further development of monitoring and early warning tools, updating disaster scenarios and the organization of local, national and international disaster management drills.

## Strategic Goal Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

#### Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

The new Civil Protection Law has widened the responsibilities of local and regional administrations with regards to disasters, and has provided for new founding mechanisms.

A process for further adaptation of the existing institutional mechanisms and a wider inter-institutional cooperation at local level is ongoing. Post-disaster financing mechanisms have been updated as well. In this framework, the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will play a major role in ensuring the availability of a consistent set of practices and tools aiming to reinforce local-level capabilities to build resilience.

#### **Strategic Goal Area 3**

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

#### Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

In this field, the country is working on setting up specific disaster risk prevention and

reduction policy at the central level, with specific regards to hydro-geological risks and protection of schools, directly connected to the existing civil protection laws and regulations. This will ensure the further enforcement of existing rules aiming to ensure that other relevant policies issued at all levels (e.g. land use regulations, urban plans, building codes etc.) are compliant with risk maps and risk reduction programmes.

## **Priority for Action 1**

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

#### Core indicator 1

National policy and legal framework for disaster risk reduction exists with decentralised responsibilities and capacities at all levels.

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is disaster risk taken into account in public investment and planning decisions? Yes

National development plan	Yes
Sector strategies and plans	Yes
Climate change policy and strategy	Yes
Poverty reduction strategy papers	No
CCA/ UNDAF (Common Country Assessment/ UN Development Assistance Framework)	No
Civil defence policy, strategy and contingency planning	Yes

Have legislative and/or regulatory provisions been made for managing disaster risk? Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In Italy, Disaster Risk Reduction is a task performed at different levels by a

multiplicity of

institutions and agencies. Development policies as well as other specific strategies currently

foresee DRR requirements to be fulfilled. These policies are periodically reviewed and

improved, but currently there is a lack of coordination in the reviewing process.

The adoption of a new and more consistent approach to DRR is being promoted in the framework of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, with the development of a

comprehensive disaster prevention and reduction policy that should lead to the development

of a set of common procedures.

The Government has set up specific working groups on reduction of hydro-geological risks and protection of school buildings, while a new approach to the use of EU Structural Funds has been promoted by the National Civil Protection Department

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The full accomplishment of the objectives set by the Hyogo Framework for Action will require

the improvement of coordination among all actors involved in Disaster Risk Reduction. The

National Platform is playing a pivotal role in this field, but further efforts need to be made.

#### Core indicator 2

Dedicated and adequate resources are available to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

What is the ratio of the budget allocation to risk reduction versus disaster relief and reconstruction?

	Risk reduction / prevention (%)	Relief and reconstruction (%)
National budget		

Decentralised / sub-national budget

USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

An adequate amount of resources is currently devoted to Disaster Risk Reduction. These

resources are managed by a number of different institutions and bodies that, each one in its

area of responsibility, provide for structural and non-structural activities aiming to reducina

the risk of both natural and man-made disasters. A need for improved coordination and resource

rationalization is perceived and will be satisfied in the framework. New initiatives adopted with regards to the employment of EU Structural Funds will need to be implemented carefully.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Despite the current international economic trend, involving cuts in government spending,

available resources are slightly growing as long as disaster risk awareness increases.

In the same time, other relevant partners have been identified and involved in the framework of the Platform, in order to improve its coordination capabilities.

#### Core indicator 3

Community Participation and decentralisation is ensured through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels

#### Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Do local governments have legal responsibility and regular / systematic budget allocations for DRR? Yes

Legislation (Is there a specific legislation for local governments with a mandate for DRR?)	Yes
Regular budget allocations for DRR to local government	Yes
Estimated % of local budget allocation assigned to DRR	

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

DRR at local level basically lies on local authorities and civil protection structures. The Italian

Civil Protection Service is based on the two pillars of decentralization and subsidiarity. Under

the framework provided by the Law n. 225 of February 24th .1992, as modified and integrated over time, forecasting, preventive, emergency and recovery measures for the protection of people, goods and of the environment from the effects of disasters are a primary responsibility of the Mayor. Other authorities participate in the prevision and prevention of disasters and can be also involved in emergency and recovery operations.

The new legislation in force in the field of Civil Protection (n. 100 of July 12th 2012) has widened the responsibilities of local and regional administrations with regards to disasters, and has provided for new founding mechanisms. The civil society is fully involved in these processes, mainly through NGOs and volunteer organizations.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

In this field the need of more effective accountability is still perceived. In some areas of the

country, lack of local regulations causes weak cooperation, slowdowns and delays in planning and prevention activities.

#### **Core indicator 4**

A national multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction is functioning.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are civil society organizations, national finance and planning institutions, key economic and development sector organizations represented in the national platform? No

civil society members (specify absolute number)	
national finance and planning institutions (specify absolute number)	
sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)	
private sector (specify absolute number)	
science and academic institutions (specify absolute number)	
women's organisations participating in national platform (specify absolute number)	
other (please specify)	

#### Where is the coordinating lead institution for disaster risk reduction located?

In the Prime Minister's/President's Office	No
In a central planning and/or coordinating unit	No
In a civil protection department	Yes
In an environmental planning ministry	No
In the Ministry of Finance	No
Other (Please specify)	

# Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The National Platform for DRR has been created by means of the Prime Minister's Decree

n. 66 of January 18th, 2008, Decree of the Head of the National Civil Protection Department n. 19 of January 13, 2012 and Prime Minister's Directive n. 1442 of April 15, 2013.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main issues related to the Platform involve how to foster cooperation on policy issues while safeguarding specific roles and responsibilities of each partners.

## **Priority for Action 2**

Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

#### **Core indicator 1**

National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors.

#### Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is there a national multi-hazard risk assessment with a common methodology available to inform planning and development decisions? Yes

Multi-hazard risk assessment	No
% of schools and hospitals assessed	
schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)	
Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments	Yes
Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments	Yes
Risk assessment held by a central repository (lead institution)	No
Common format for risk assessment	Yes
Risk assessment format customised by user	Yes
Is future/probable risk assessed?	Yes

Please list the sectors that have already used disaster risk assessment as a precondition for sectoral development planning and programming.

# Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Risk assessments concerning all main hazards are performed at local, regional and National level. These activities are carried out according to risk maps updated periodically in order to maintain a thorough knowledge of the distribution, over the whole National territory, of hazards, exposure and vulnerability. The responsibility to ensure that risk maps and risk assessments are up-to-date relies primarily upon local and regional authorities, which have a better knowledge of the territory. Risk assessments as well as risk management capability assessments are carried out in the framework of specific EU rules and procedures.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main challenge in this sector is the growing magnitude of disasters occurring countrywide. Climate change is modifying the relation between the communities and their

territories. This problem is exacerbated by the presence of human settlements and activities

even in remote and/or dangerous areas. In some areas of the Country, small commoften do not have the necessary skills and resources to carry out effective risk assessments.

This may cause poor development planning, reflecting a lack of knowledge about risk distribution.

## **Core indicator 2**

Systems are in place to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards and vulnerabilities

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are disaster losses and hazards systematically reported, monitored and analyzed? Yes

Disaster loss databases exist and are regularly updated	Yes
Reports generated and used in planning by finance, planning and sectoral line ministries (from the disaster databases/ information systems)	Yes
Hazards are consistently monitored across localities and territorial boundaries	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Comprehensive risk assessments are carried out at the different levels of the system under the responsibility of municipalities, provinces and regions, with a strong support given by the National level.

The National Civil Protection Department has the responsibility to provide the whole system with

guidelines and directives concerning how risk assessments have to be conducted, made available and circulated from one level to the others and to the public. These measures are provided through National forecasting and Prevention Programmes. The Regional Administrations are then responsible for translating the National guidelines into Regional Programmes in which roles and responsibilities of lowerlevel administrations are defined together with information exchange procedures. Provincial and municipal risk assessments are strongly related, since risks very often fall across the boundaries of two or more municipalities. In these cases, the coordination role played by the Provinces, or by inter-municipal cooperation bodies, is critical.

A methodology for disaster loss recording is in place. In the aftermath of disasters, it is compulsory for Regional administrations to account for losses recorded in order to request financial aid from the National level.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Experience has shown that, even if standardization and notification procedures have

been

set, there are still gaps in timing and quality of risk assessments made by small villages, due

to lack of resources and difficulties in recruiting skilled personnel. A number of initiatives

have been undertaken in order to face this problem, with some success

#### Core indicator 3

Early warning systems are in place for all major hazards, with outreach to communities.

Level of Progress achieved? 5

Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Do risk prone communities receive timely and understandable warnings of impending hazard events? Yes

Early warnings acted on effectively	Yes
Local level preparedness	Yes
Communication systems and protocols used and applied	Yes
Active involvement of media in early warning	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Early warning is a National and regional commitment. It is ensured through an extensive use of technologies owned by different administration and agencies. A number of remote networks and sensors systems covering all risks affecting the Country are in place. Early Warning has been improved through the creation of a "National warning system" composed by a Central Functional Centre and Regional Functional Centres, introduced in 2004. Each centre has the responsibility to receive, assemble and integrate all relevant data for foreseeable risks, to consult with other

centres and to make information available to all relevant players as well as to the public.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main challenges concerning the future of early warning refer to systems integration. The National warning system provides an extensive coverage of risks, but a number of independent systems and networks exist as well. While almost all systems owned by National-level institutions and agencies are already linked to the network, there still remain resources managed at the regional and sub-regional level by a wide number of actors (including regional agencies, research networks and private companies) that need to be integrated, or to be fully integrated, into the national warning system.

#### **Core indicator 4**

National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.

#### Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Does your country participate in regional or sub-regional actions to reduce disaster risk? Yes

Establishing and maintaining regional hazard monitoring	Yes
Regional or sub-regional risk assessment	Yes
Regional or sub-regional early warning	Yes
Establishing and implementing protocols for transboundary information sharing	Yes
Establishing and resourcing regional and sub- regional strategies and frameworks	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Comprehensive risk assessments are carried out primarily under the responsibility and coordination of

the regions, provinces and municipalities. Internal transboundary issues are taken into consideration

according to the directives and guidelines issued by the National Civil Protection Department, which is

responsible for keeping the whole picture up-to-date and for facilitating regional cooperation.

By means of the reform performed through the Constitutional Law n. 3 of October 18th, 2001, the Italian Regions have acquired the power to sign international agreements concerning Civil Protection in compliance with the relevant National policies, so regions with international boundaries can set up cross-border agreements with foreign Civil Protection agencies. In the last years, several cooperation programmes have been set up to reduce transboundary risks.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Regional cooperation can be further improved, particularly when international borders are concerned.

Specialized agencies have been set up in order to deal with risks typically involving more than one

region, such as the hydrological risk tied to rivers and to major basins. With regards to transnational

issues, some northern regions have already developed their own networks involving both national and foreign partners. In recent years, a stronger cooperation with the Mediterranean Countries has been established. This will help developing new forms of transnational cooperation involving southern regions. Italy is also strongly involved in the ongoing initiatives for setting up a tsunamy warning system in the Mediterranean Sea.

## **Priority for Action 3**

Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

#### Core indicator 1

Relevant information on disasters is available and accessible at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems etc)

Level of Progress achieved? 5

Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is there a national disaster information system publicly available? Yes

Information is proactively disseminated	Yes
Established mechanisms for access / dissemination (internet, public information broadcasts - radio, TV, )	Yes
Information is provided with proactive guidance to manage disaster risk	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Information concerning disasters is gathered, treated and disseminated by the competent institutions and agencies of the National Civil Protection Service. The National Civil Protection Department has the responsibility to supervise the whole system, to identify lessons learnt and to draw guidelines concerning specific aspects. Internet news, monographs, DVDs, press releases and technical reports are regularly circulated both to the public and to the Civil Protection community in order to ensure dissemination of information.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular,

highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

An intensive effort has been made in the last years to improve information sharing.

man-made disasters requiring a National support have been managed according to a policy aiming at

the maximum transparency and availability of information. Information availability is lower in relation to smaller events managed by municipalities, provinces and/or regions. While some regions have strong information policies in place, some others still experience difficulties related to information gathering, treatment and/or dissemination.

#### Core indicator 2

School curricula, education material and relevant trainings include disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts and practices.

#### Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum? Yes

primary school curriculum	No
secondary school curriculum	No
university curriculum	No
professional DRR education programmes	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Disaster Risk Reduction is currently not included into school curricula. However, in recent years several university courses and postgraduate specializations in Civil

Protection, covering DRR as well as other related topics, have been introduced. All relevant subjects are also integrated into a number of training courses provided to a DRR professionals, practitioners, volunteers, mayors, etc.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/will be overcome in the future.

Introduction of DRR elements into standard school/university curricula has been often debated in the Country. For the time being, only small results have been achieved in this field. On the other side, a wide range of generalist and specialist curricula are available for those that, for personal or professional reasons, want to concentrate on DRR issues.

#### Core indicator 3

Research methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and cost benefit analysis are developed and strengthened.

#### Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget? Yes

Research programmes and projects	Yes
Research outputs, products or studies are applied / used by public and private institutions	Yes
Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's

ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Regional and National authorities are in charge of mobilizing resources and capacities to develop

methodologies and tools for assessing vulnerability and the impact of hazards. In this framework, a

particular attention is given to multi-risk assessment tools and capabilities. A system of multirisk "functional centres" is in place, composed by a Central Functional Centre hosted at the National Civil Protection Department and Regional Functional Centres arranged by regions.

Functional centres are the core of the National warning system. Each centre performs forecasting, early warning and now-casting by pooling, analyzing, synthesizing and disseminating data and information produced by their own technologies (such as networks of remote sensors, etc.) and by systems belonging to other agencies.

Cost-benefit analysis is an integral part of the procedures of identification, evaluation and acquisition of technologies and tools. Moreover, arrangements are in place aiming to ensure the full participation of the scientific and research community in all mentioned activities

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The National warning system is being further improved through the development of stronger earthquake and volcanic networks. The only challenge identified in this field is the need for a more structured coordination of research policies and programmes.

## **Core indicator 4**

Countrywide public awareness strategy exists to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Do public education campaigns for risk-prone communities and local authorities include disaster risk? Yes

Public education campaigns for enhanced awareness of risk.	Yes
Training of local government	Yes
Disaster management (preparedness and emergency response)	Yes
Preventative risk management (risk and vulnerability)	Yes
Guidance for risk reduction	Yes
Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Several disaster awareness campaigns have been performed in recent years. Extensive campaigns

have been carried out by using all available communication means and tools. General campaigns

include earthquakes, floods, heat waves, severe storms and other risks. Additionally, tailored communication on earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis etc. has been brought to communities living in territories affected by specific risks.

Public information concerning disasters is performed by the Civil Protection Department at the National level, by Regional Administrations at the regional level and by Mayors at the local level. Other actors such as the National Fire Brigade, the National Forest Guard and volunteers' associations promote disaster awareness as well.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Difficulties are still experienced in reaching small communities settled in remote and isolated areas

## **Priority for Action 4**

Reduce the underlying risk factors

#### **Core indicator 1**

Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.

#### Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc) Yes

Protected areas legislation	No
Payment for ecosystem services (PES)	Yes
Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)	Yes
Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)	Yes
Climate change adaptation projects and programmes	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The relevant authority for the definition of environment related policies and plans is the Ministry of Environment, Land Protection and Sea, together with other competent authorities (such as the Basin Authorities) set up to face specific risks. These framework policies include guidelines for land use and natural resource management. National policies are then translated into regional measures and implemented at the provincial and local level. Due to their inter-disciplinary nature,

climate change issues are faced through a multiplicity of initiatives undertaken at all levels by a variety of institutional, research and private subjects, including volunteer's associations

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/will be overcome in the future.

A strong effort is being made towards the development of a comprehensive National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy. This will involve the definition of its relations with other specific policies and plans

falling under the responsibility of different institutions. This is one of the main goals of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, with particular reference to climate change regulation.

#### Core indicator 2

Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.

#### Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Do social safety nets exist to increase the resilience of risk prone households and communities? Yes

Crop and property insurance	Yes
Temporary employment guarantee schemes	Yes
Conditional and unconditional cash transfers	Yes
Micro finance (savings, loans, etc.)	Yes
Micro insurance	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The authority responsible for the definition of social development policies and plans is the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies. Within the last years, the Italian Povernment and Parliament have approved several initiatives and acts aiming to reinforce social safety nets. In recent times, an even stronger attention is being given to issues rising from unplanned settlements highly exposed to risks.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

In Italy there has been a longstanding debate on the introduction of compulsory risk insurance. The country is exposed to a wide numbers of risks with non-homogenous distribution. This makes it difficult to identify National Policies that can be perceived as convenient in all areas and by the most part of the population.

#### **Core indicator 3**

Economic and productive sectorial policies and plans have been implemented to reduce the vulnerability of economic activities

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment? No

National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.	Yes
Please provide specific examples: e.g. public infrastructure, transport and communication, economic and productive assets	
Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Ministry of Economic Development is the authority in charge for the definition of economic sectorial policies and plans. It has undertaken several initiatives involving all the public and private actors interested in reducing the vulnerability of economic activities and to promote business continuity management. In order to enhance capabilities in this field, a specific National policy will be defined.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/will be overcome in the future.

The efforts made over the last years in order to develop a comprehensive National Disaster Risk

Reduction policy, will provide the means to implement a stronger public investment policy. A new and more efficient policy concerning the use of EU Structural Funds for DRR purposes will be issued by the National Civil Protection Department in the coming months.

#### Core indicator 4

Planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is there investment to reduce the risk of vulnerable urban settlements? Yes

Investment in drainage infrastructure in flood	Yes
prone areas	

Slope stabilisation in landslide prone areas	Yes
Training of masons on safe construction technology	Yes
Provision of safe land and housing for low income households and communities	No
Risk sensitive regulation in land zoning and private real estate development	Yes
Regulated provision of land titling	No

# Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Planning and regulation of human settlements are carried out by the Regional and the Municipal

Administrations according to the applicable law and to the framework policies provided by the relevant

Ministries (Ministry of Environment, Land Protection and Sea, Ministry of Infrastructures etc.).

Disaster Risk Reduction elements and considerations are already included into this process. A number of initiatives are also in place to improve the overall planning, implementation and enforcement capabilities.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be

The main issue in this field refers to the weak enforcement capability in some areas of the Country.

Implementing building codes in Italy is a difficult task, also due to the presence of a wide number of historical buildings, belonging to the National cultural heritage, not complying with today's building standards. The efforts made over the last years to develop a comprehensive National Disaster Risk Reduction policy, will provide the means for further strengthening cooperation in this field.

overcome in the future.

#### Core indicator 5

Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes

#### Level of Progress achieved? 5

Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Do post-disaster programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR for resilient recovery? Yes

% of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR	
DRR capacities of local authorities for response and recovery strengthened	Yes
Risk assessment undertaken in pre- and post- disaster recovery and reconstruction planning	Yes
Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Disaster Risk Reduction elements are taken into consideration in all phases of the risk management cycle. According to the current rules applicable to the National Civil Protection Service, this includes forecasting and preventive measures as well as emergency and recovery ones.

Strong efforts in this field have been made in the immediate aftermath of all most recent major disasters that struck the country. Civil Protection, however, includes only those measures carried out in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. Long-term recovery and rehabilitation is a responsibility that relies primarily on local/regional administrations, and involve other institutions and agencies.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/will be

overcome in the future.

The main challenge identified with regards to recovery and rehabilitation after major disasters refers to the scarcity of resources available for mid-term emergency overcoming and long-term reconstruction.

Despite the current international economic trend, a strong effort is being made to raise the amount of

resources available and to implement more effective use and accountability policies.

#### Core indicator 6

Procedures are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects, especially infrastructure.

#### Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are the impacts of disaster risk that are created by major development projects assessed? Yes

Are cost/benefits of disaster risk taken into account in the design and operation of major development projects? No

Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)	Yes
By national and sub-national authorities and institutions	Yes
By international development actors	Yes

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The authority competent for assessing the disaster risk impact of major development projects is the

Ministry for Infrastructure and Transport. The Ministry is also responsible for developing standards and procedures concerning the design and implementation of infrastructures. It works side by side with the regional and local authorities, other ministries as well as public and private companies to improve the capability to assess the impact on disaster risk of development and infrastructural projects.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/will be overcome in the future.

The capacity to assess disaster risk impact of infrastructural and development projects has been

enhanced through the implementation of new rules related to Environment Impact Assessment. Further

improvements will follow in the next years as long as cooperation in this field progresses.

## **Priority for Action 5**

Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels

#### **Core indicator 1**

Strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are in place.

Level of Progress achieved? 5

Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are there national programmes or policies for disaster preparedness, contingency planning and response? Yes

DRR incorporated in these programmes and policies	Yes
The institutional mechanisms exist for the rapid mobilisation of resources in a disaster, utilising civil society and the private sector; in addition to public sector support.	Yes

Are there national programmes or policies to make schools and health facilities safe in emergencies? Yes

Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety	Yes
Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness	Yes

Are future disaster risks anticipated through scenario development and aligned preparedness planning? Yes

Potential risk scenarios are developed taking into account climate change projections	Yes
Preparedness plans are regularly updated based on future risk scenarios	Yes

# Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Disaster risk management is one of the core activities carried out by the National Civil Protection Service. This means that it is an integral part of the National, regional and local Civil Protection policies.

A comprehensive system of laws and rules is in place, including Inter-agency agreements for pooling and sharing of resources at all stages of the emergency management cycle, both domestic and international.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

There is no major issue identified in this field. A comprehensive National policy for disaster risk management is in place and it is continuously updated. Its compliance to DRR elements and doctrines has been improved in the last years.

#### Core indicator 2

Disaster preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at all administrative levels, and regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes.

Level of Progress achieved? 5

Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are the contingency plans, procedures and resources in place to deal with a major disaster? Yes

Plans and programmes are developed with gender sensitivities	Yes
Risk management/contingency plans for continued basic service delivery	Yes
Operations and communications centre	Yes

Search and rescue teams	Yes
Stockpiles of relief supplies	Yes
Shelters	Yes
Secure medical facilities	Yes
Dedicated provision for disabled and elderly in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities	Yes
Businesses are a proactive partner in planning and delivery of response	Yes

# Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Disaster preparedness programmes are provided at the National and regional level. Regional programmes must be compliant with the correspondent National ones. The National preparedness programmes are part of the National Forecasting and Prevention Programmes, while the regional ones are included into Regional Forecasting and Prevention Programmes. Provinces and municipalities are responsible for implementing the measures laid in these programmes by setting up specific preparedness plans compliant to the guidelines issued at the upper levels. Contingency plans are developed at all levels. The National Civil Protection Department is responsible

for coordinating the development of the National contingency plans and issuing guidelines on how

lower-level administrations have to set their plans. Regions translate the National guidelines into

directives for the Provincial level (Prefectures and/or Provincial Administrations - depending

on local arrangements). Municipal contingency plans must finally comply with the provincial ones.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Small municipalities located in remote areas are not always provided with sufficient technical and/or

financial resources to develop effective disaster preparedness and contingency plans. In other cases, plans are in place but, due to these limitations, they are not periodically updated or sufficiently exercised.

Despite the current international economic trend, a strong effort is being made to raise the amount of

economic resources available and to implement more effective use and accountability policies.

#### Core indicator 3

Financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place to support effective response and recovery when required.

#### Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Are financial arrangements in place to deal with major disaster? Yes

National contingency and calamity funds	Yes
The reduction of future risk is considered in the use of calamity funds	Yes
Insurance and reinsurance facilities	No
Catastrophe bonds and other capital market mechanisms	No

#### Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

A National Civil Protection Fund has been set up to provide a financial reserve to be employed when

major disasters occur. Regional funds are also in place and resources are allocated yearly by the

relevant Regional Administration and by the National Civil Protection Department. Contingency mechanisms are also in place. On the basis of disaster losses

recordings and assessment of the emergency needs, the National Civil Protection Department can assign ad-hoc resources directly to the regions affected and to the institutional agencies involved in the emergency management / overcoming operations.

Under some conditions, the President of the Council of Ministers can also issue ordinances repealing the ordinary law according to the "declaration of the state of emergency" made by the Council of Ministers.

Almost all regions have in place similar procedures to employ their regional funds. Municipalities can also set up Civil Protection funds financed with their own resources and with resources provided by the Regional Administration.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The mechanism in place has shown to be very effective and easy to be employed. A constant effort is being made to improve financial management procedures, audit and liability rules.

#### **Core indicator 4**

Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters, and to undertake post-event reviews.

#### Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

#### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Has an agreed method and procedure been adopted to assess damage, loss and needs when disasters occur? Yes

Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available	Yes
Post-disaster need assessment methodologies	Yes
Post-disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects	Yes

# Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Due to the compliance of the National Civil Protection system to the European standards and procedures, information concerning ongoing disasters are constantly gathered and updated, and circulated in the system through a network of operational rooms going from the National to the local level. Data is as well gathered and circulated through the National Warning System. Emergency communication is also a primary need of a modern Civil Protection System. Procedures and systems have therefore been set up to ensure smooth communication sharing, information resilience

and availability. To this end, in 2002 a national emergency frequency has been set up together with a "national radio network" linking the National Civil Protection Department with the National Fire Brigade and the regional civil protection authorities. This network has been extended in 2007, then regional networks have been created together with a satellite backup.

Procedures are also in place for emergency public information. In this field, the National Civil Protection Department has entered into agreements with TLC providers as well as with the major TV- and radio broadcasting companies, to set up a "National Public Utility Programme" and a "National Circuit for Public Information". Post-disaster reviews are carried out by the National Civil Protection Department as soon as the immediate response operations are closed and post disaster operations start.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Emergency communication networks are being extended. In addition, a number of other systems are in course of evaluation and testing, such as Tetra, WiMax, social networks. A National Emergency Number is also being created according to the European Commission Directive n. 2002/21.

## **Drivers of Progress**

## a) Multi-hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development

#### Levels of Reliance

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?: Yes

If yes, are these being applied to development planning/informing policy?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

A multi-hazard approach has been developed and put into practice through the implementation of a National Warning System (network of the "Functional Centres") which currently covers all major risks.

Data produced by other systems are acquired through bi- and multilateral interagency agreements. This allows the system to produce multi-risk analyses, maps and atlas that are circulated to the scientific community, Civil Protection authorities, regional and local administrations which are responsible for development planning with the competent ministries, and to the public.

This system is being enhanced through the implementation of other networks, and will be improved in the framework of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

## b) Gender perspectives on risk reduction and recovery adopted and institutionalized

#### Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Is gender disaggregated data available and being applied to decisionmaking for risk reduction and recovery activities?: Yes

Do gender concerns inform policy and programme conceptualisation and implementation in a meaningful and appropriate way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

Gender perspectives are taken into consideration by risk reduction and adaptation, disaster management and recovery policies as requested by the applicable laws. A comprehensive and dedicated gender strategy tailored to Disaster Risk Reduction will be issued on the basis of the compliance with applicable EU regulation

# c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened

#### Levels of Reliance

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

Do responsible designated agencies, institutions and offices at the local level have capacities for the enforcement of risk reduction regulations?: Yes

Are local institutions, village committees, communities, volunteers or urban resident welfare associations properly trained for response?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The identification of resources, evaluation and strengthening of risk reduction and recovery capabilities is a task falling in the category of preventive measures, which are carried out at different levels (Mayor, Prefect and/or Provincial Administration, Regional Administration, Government). The regional tier operates in close cooperation with both the provincial and the National authorities. It usually provides provinces and municipalities with assets and financial resources to be employed to prevent disasters, to face their effects and for emergency overcoming

# d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities

#### Levels of Reliance

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

Do programmes take account of socio-environmental risks to the most vulnerable and marginalised groups?: Yes

Are appropriate social protection measures / safety nets that safeguard against their specific socioeconomic and political vulnerabilities being adequately implemented?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

Elements of human security are included in all policies concerning people and communities. Civil

Protection policies include considerations for economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security. Ad hoc programmes and measures are i.e. in place to guarantee the economic and financial resilience of business companies as well as the capacity of communities to recover from the economic and social effects of both human and man-made disasters.

Further steps will be made with reference to disaster insurance policies. This issue is currently being debated.

## e) Engagement and partnerships with nongovernmental actors; civil society, private sector, amongst others, have been fostered at all levels

#### Levels of Reliance

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

Are there identified means and sources to convey local and community experience or traditional knowledge in disaster risk reduction?: Yes

If so, are they being integrated within local, sub-national and national disaster risk reduction plans and activities in a meaningful way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

All actors involved in Disaster Risk Reduction are part of the National Civil Protection Service. These

include institutions, public agencies, research centres, public/private companies and volunteers'

associations. Partnerships are set up through bi- and multilateral agreements and by means of

inter-agency bodies. At the National level, the main inter-agency bodies are the National Commission for the Forecasting and Prevention of Major Risks (in charge of providing the whole system with doctrines and long-term policies) and the Civil Protection Operational Committee (the top-level decisional body of the National Civil Protection Service). Similar bodies have also been set up at the regional, provincial and local levels.

## **Contextual Drivers of Progress**

#### Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

No other drivers have been identified

## **Future Outlook**

#### **Future Outlook Area 1**

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

#### Overall Challenges

Over the last years, many steps have been made towards integration of DRR into policies concerning sustainable development, climate change adaptation, land use and building codes, risk reduction, Civil

Protection and other policies, with a good deal of success. Integration of those policies is the challenge.

To reach this goal, reinforced cooperation and stronger support to the activities of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is needed.

#### **Future Outlook Statement**

The agenda includes developing an overall DRR strategy consistent with the existing policies and plans, which will set the main concepts and principles and will include guidelines for updating all other policies.

#### Future Outlook Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

#### Overall Challenges

A coherent system is in place to ensure that all levels can effectively deal with resilience, risk reduction and Civil Protection. Dedicated bodies have been also set up to foster cooperation and coordination. In some cases, anyway, there is a lack of coordination and accountability. Moreover, often local communities cannot invest enough resources to face the risks affecting their territory.

#### **Future Outlook Statement**

The main effort will be directed towards strengthening rules and procedures and improving local resilience capacities, through awareness-rising initiatives and by promoting a more effective use of the available resources. Several forms of support from the higher levels have been tested in the past and are currently in place.

#### **Future Outlook Area 3**

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

#### **Overall Challenges**

A DRR compliant approach is already in place in this field. Forecasting and preventive measures are included into National programmes, tailored by the regions on their needs and then translated into provincial and municipal plans. Emergency management, recovery and reconstruction policies are also in place at the National level. Strategies, plans and activities carried out at the local level must be compliant with the corresponding national policy. No main challenges have been identified in this field.

#### **Future Outlook Statement**

DRR elements are included in all policies concerning land use, building codes, community planning, Civil Protection etc. A stronger effort will be made towards integration of these policies

## **Stakeholders**

Organizations, departments, and institutions that have contributed to the report

Organization	Organization type	Focal Point
National Department of Civil Protection	Governments	Luigi D'Angelo, head of Unit