

## FINAL SUMMARY REPORT

### Increasing Resilience of Cities to Disasters in Central Asia and Caucasus Region Regional Training Workshop

*Almaty, Kazakhstan 09-12 June 2015*



## I. Background and Rationale

Over the past 20 years disasters have affected 4.4 billion people, caused USD 2 trillion of damage and killed 1.3 million people. Natural disasters affected people living in developing countries and the most vulnerable communities within those countries. Over 95 percent of people killed by disasters are from developing countries.<sup>1</sup>

Current and future challenges of mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in development planning demand new approaches, mechanisms, sets of skills and competencies that need to be identified and strengthened in order to form the basis of increasing public demand and political commitment to local actions and budget allocations. Lack of appropriate knowledge on the subject, lack of government commitment and the absence of mainstreaming in current organizational and government strategy are key existing challenges.

<sup>1</sup> *Extreme Weather and Natural Disasters, 2012*

Urban risk is continually increasing. It has been estimated that, more than 50 per cent of the world's population is living in urban areas. Urbanization is taking place at an unprecedented rate. In the next 20 years, the world's population is predicted to increase by an additional two billion. By 2030 more than 60% of the world's population is expected to live in cities, with record concentrations in large urban conglomerations and megacities in the developing world. Vulnerability of cities to disasters is on the rise especially as poor people settle in high-risk urban areas. Unfortunately, planning and development of cities has given little consideration to the consequences of hazards such as earthquakes, hydro-meteorological risks and others. The implication of this reality is the need for countries to focus their collective energies to create a safer world for urban dwellers and develop a series of innovative approaches to meet this challenge.

In this regard, building resilience and adapting to climate change is crucial for cities. Efforts to build resilience in cities can benefit from integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation with existing efforts in disaster risk reduction and other similar planning processes.

This capacity building training workshop, while promoting the importance of effective climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, will provide:

- i) an opportunity for cities and local governments to enhance capacities in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction with a focus on countries/ cities Resilience Action Plans development and implementation.
- ii) a platform to exchange in-depth learning from experts in the related area and to share good practices among participants
- iii) a venue for city-to-city cooperation in building resilience in cities by integrating disaster risk principles into local DRR and CCA plans, programmes and initiatives

**Venue:** Hotel KAZJOL, Main Conference Room, Almaty, Kazakhstan.

### **Organizers**

- **UNISDR ONEA-GETI**
- **UNISDR Regional Office for CASC**
- **EU ECHO**

**Targeted Audience:** The workshop was attended by High-level authorities and experts from State and local governments, academic and DRR training institutions, and other local actors within Brazil

**Workshop Language:** Russian and English (simultaneous translation was provided)

A summary of the key training topics presented at the training workshop, and points raised during group exercises and plenary discussions is provided below.



## II. Workshop Objectives and Expected Outcomes

### Objectives:

Overall, the training course will provide an opportunity to disaster prone developing countries to:

- Increase political commitment and social demand for disaster resilient development, adapted for climate change, aiming for sustainable development.
- Increase engagement of national actors in the field of national development and planning with the DRR and CCA Agenda and enhance country planners and decision makers' ability and commitment to promote DRR and CCA through relevant systems, policies and processes.
- Learn about the Making Cities Resilient Global Campaign and how its tools, materials and approaches may be used to build local resilience to disasters.
- Building capacities of experts and officials at local level with a focus on City Resilience Action Plans development and implementation based on MCR Campaign 10 Essentials to make their cities resilient to disasters.

### Expected Outcomes

- *Trained cadres of national and city high level city officials*
- *Draft City Resilience Assessment Report*
- *Draft City Resilience Action Plans*
- *Draft Strategy paper on how to further finalize, ensure endorsement and effectively implement the City Resilience Action Plan*



## III. Training Course Modules Description and Recourse Persons

The training course was divided in three main sections and 9 modules, as described below (see table 1 for a summary of the modules):

### **Section 1: Introduction, conceptual framework (Module 1)**

Provided review of the conceptual framework and focused on analysing current trends in urban risk and risk reduction

## **Section 2: Understanding and implementing the MCR tools (Modules 2 to 6)**

This is the central part of the course. The different sessions were delivered aiming to improve participant's knowledge and skills to effectively implement MCR campaign tools, in particular the 10 essentials and the MCR Local Government Self-Assessment Tool (LG-SAT) and proposed roadmap with steps and approach to develop draft outline of the Safe and Resilient City Action Plan with its list of objectives, activities and indicators of success to enable the Action Plan effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

## **Section 3: Planning the way forward (Module 7)**

- Section 3 Modules provided opportunity to participants to share and analyse city-to-city exchange experiences and looking for the elements that make them successful. The purpose here is to explore options for supporting risk management capacity development at local level. They also facilitated group discussions and planning among participants the strategy on how they will continue the work done at the workshop when they go back to their respective countries and what steps they have to take to finalise the draft Action Plan and ensure its effective implementation.

**Table # 1** below summarizes the three main sections and its modules

<b>Section</b>	<b>Modules</b>
<b>Section 1:</b> DRR and CCA Concepts	<b>Module 1:</b> DRR and CCA Concepts and Current Tendencies in Mainstreaming DRR and CCA into Development Policies, Frameworks and Programmes
<b>Section 2:</b> Understanding Adapting and Using the tools to conduct assessment of Disaster Risks and Develop Resilient Countries/Cities Action Plans	<b>Module 2:</b> Getting to know the UNISDR 10 Essentials/Principles for Building National and City Resilience. Case for each of 10 Essentials
	<b>Module 3:</b> Applying the Disaster Resilience Scorecard Tool, to conduct assessment and analysis of DRR at national and local level
	<b>Module 4:</b> Concepts and Case Studies of Mainstreaming DRR and CCA for Sustainable Development Through Sectoral Programmes (i.e. Governance, Financing DRR, Climate Change, Environment, Risk Based Land Use Management & Planning, Critical Infrastructure, Housing, Livelihood Protection, Safe Schools and Hospitals, Early Warning Systems, etc.)
	<b>Module 5:</b> Developing and implementing Safe and Resilient City Action Plan. Proposed Methodology with Steps and the Approach.
<b>Section 3:</b> Planning the way forward	<b>Module 6:</b> Setting Indicators for Resilient City Action Plan Monitoring, Evaluating and Follow up
	<b>Module 7:</b> Building Effective Partnerships at all levels and Developing a Strategy/Roadmap for finalizing, endorsing, linking and effectively implementing National and Cities Resilience Action Plans
	<b>Module 8:</b> Sharing experiences, best practices and models for Country-to-Country and City-to-City Learning, and capacity development models and programs
	<b>Module 9:</b> Scaling up Disaster Risk Assessment and Resilience Action Plans Preparation Process at Regional and Local level.
	<b>Module 10:</b> Ensuring Greater Impact of the Resilience Action Plans, and Facilitating Change Process at National, Regional and Local level

### **UNISDR ONEA/GETI Workshop Resource Persons:**

- Mr. Armen ROSTOMYAN (Programme Officer UNISDR ONEA-GETI)**
- Andrew McElroy (Programme Officer UNISDR ONEA-GETI)**



## IV. Methodology and Description of the Workshop Sessions and Modules

The following is a list of achieved outcomes for each Module and Group Works Exercises broken down by 3 days of the workshop. [The workshop Agenda](#), [List of Participants](#) and [Draft Resilient Cities/Countries Action Planes](#) developed and presented by the Country/ region Groups are provided in Appendixes # 1, 2 and 3 of this report. Summary of UNISDR ONEA/GETI Training Course Modules by Days is provided below:

### DAY 1

#### **Module 1: Finding a common language and Introduction of trends in urban risk and risk reduction**

Achieved Outcomes: During this Module Sessions participants had a chance to

- Improve their understanding of risk assessment and management terminology and concepts
- Improve comprehension of current trends in urban risk
- Identify main factors leading to building disaster risk in urban contexts at the global, regional, national and local level

Summary of the Module Content:

*The presentation discusses main urban trends at global level and its interrelation with the observed urban risk tendencies.*

#### **What do we need to look for when reviewing trends in disaster risk and risk reduction?**

- **The facts:** what do the data and information available can tell us about the global trends on risk (related to natural hazards). Where can we find reliable data and information on disaster risk trends?
- **The conceptual frameworks:** what tools could be used to explain observed tendencies? What are the conceptual frameworks and methodologies used to analyse, diagnose, design and implement action plans to reduce risk?
- **The factors:** how can these observed trends be explained? What are the factors driving the observed tendencies? What can be said regarding global trends in urban risk reduction?



## **Module 2: Introducing Making Cities Resilient (MCR) Global Campaign and Campaign Tools. MCR Campaign 10 Essentials with Case Studies.**

Achieved Outcomes: During this Module Sessions participants had a chance to

- Increase comprehension of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign purpose, resources and tools
- Improve knowledge and comprehension of the 10 essentials and the local HFA
- Understand the requirements to apply MCR 10 essentials

Summary of the Content and Group Discussions:

This module was divided into the following sessions:

- a) General introduction to the Making Cities Resilient Campaign;
- b) Review of the ten-point checklist – Essentials for making cities resilient; and
- c) Review of the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool (LGSAT or Local HFA). The ten essentials and the LGSAT are regarded as the basic Campaign tools. The Mayor’s handbook provides guidelines on the implementation of the 10 essentials.

## **Module 3: Applying MCR Campaign Tools for Assessment and Diagnosis. Using Local Government Self-Assessment Tool (LG-SAT)**

Working Group Discussion/Exercise: *“Using MCR LG-SAT tool to assess risk management situation in own cities”.*

Plenary Discussion: *“Presenting Group Work Outcomes “*

Achieved Outcomes: During this Module Sessions participants had a chance to

- Learn and practice as part of the group exercise the main steps for undertaken a diagnosis and assessment process
- Understand how the MCR tools can contribute to the development of a DRM diagnosis and assessment

Summary of the Content and Group Discussions: In this Module had a chance to discuss:

- Why preparing a diagnosis and assessment of DRM gaps, challenges and opportunities
- The preparation process to undertake the diagnosis and assessment
- The suggested steps to undertake the diagnosis and assessment of the disaster risk management situation at the local level
- The possibilities offered by the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool LGSAT/Local HFA, to identify the city’s gaps, challenges and opportunities surrounding disaster risk management.
- The development of the diagnosis and assessment report



## DAY 2

**Module 4: Development and Implementation of a City Land Use Management Plan; Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Reduction into Development and Sectoral Programmes for Socio-Economic Development with Case Studies on Following Sectors: *Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Housing, Critical Infrastructure, Governance, Livelihood Protection, Health Sector Rehabilitating Ecosystems, and Financing Disaster Recovery (Parts 1, 2, 3, & 4)***

**Plenary Discussion: “Sharing participants experience on Mainstreaming DRR into Land Use Plane and Sectoral Programmes of Housing & Climate Change Adaptation”**

**Achieved Outcomes:** During this Module Sessions participants had a chance to

- Learn more and better understand the process of Mainstreaming Adaptation and Disaster Reduction into Development Sectoral Programmes for Socio-Economic Development with Case Studies and particular focus on following Sectors: *Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Housing, Critical Infrastructure, Governance, Livelihood Protection, Health Sector Rehabilitating Ecosystems, and Financing Disaster Recovery*

**Summary of the Content and Group Discussions:**

- The session provided an opportunity to expose participants to various options to “build back better” after a disaster through a wide array of strategies and actions, which may serve as options for local governments to adopt, if it suits to their respective contexts. The lessons on recovery, as compiled by UNISDR ONEA/GETI from various experiences around the globe, provided an additional input to build on the existing initiatives of the local governments.
- The case studies of this module covered and provided practical information on different sectors of DRR and CCA. Lessons drawn from specific case will be explained by resource persons/consultants via PowerPoint presentations.
- Each case study highlighted a unique practice, designed to entice participants to reflect and analyse whether such practice is applicable to their contexts.



**Module 5: Developing and Implementing Safe and Resilient Country/City Action Plan**

Working Group Discussion: - Working Group Discussion to develop Draft version of Safe and Resilient Country/City Action Plan (Part 1) and (Part 2)

Plenary Discussion: “Presenting Group Work Outcomes “

Achieved Outcomes: During this Module Sessions participants had a chance to

- Understand how disaster risk reduction can be integrated into land use management planning
- Identify and describe main components for the preparation of a land use management plan, integrating disaster risk management
- Define and describe main elements to be considered in the plan’s implementation strategy

Summary of the Content and Group Discussions:

- Disaster risk reduction is a cross cutting concept; achieving risk reduction objectives should be seen a process with short, medium and long term milestones
- The disaster risk management plan is realized through actions implemented by the different development programs carried out by national and local governments
- A key component of the action plan is the definition of qualitative and/or quantitative goal allowing for the monitoring and assessment of progress



## DAY 3

### **Module 6: City Action Plan Monitoring, Evaluation and Follow Up.**

Working Group Discussion: *“Developing own Draft Safe and Resilient City Action Plan”.*

Plenary Discussion: *“Presenting Group Work Outcomes ”*

Achieved Outcomes: During this Module Sessions participants had a chance to

- Understand the different type of indicators and define their usability in the context of disaster risk reduction
- Describe the steps suggested for the development of a monitoring and evaluation strategy
- Identify and add success indicators to the Action Plan key objectives and activities

Summary of the Content and Group Discussions:

- Indicators are the key components of a monitoring strategy for the resilient city action plan
- The Local HFA can support the monitoring of the resilient city action plan
- A fundamental component of the monitoring strategy is the definition of actors/stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities
- A monitoring and evaluation strategy should include a timeline for its implementation. Indicators should reflect the specific timeline





*With funding support from:*



## Increasing Resilience of Cities to Disasters in Central Asia and Caucasus Region Regional Training Workshop

*Almaty, Kazakhstan 09-12 June 2015*

### Agenda

Day One	10 June 2015
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:15	Opening and Welcome: - Ms. Madhavi Ariyabandu, UNISDR Sub-Regional Office CASC - ECHO Caucasus and Central Asia Office
9:15-9:30	Overview of the workshop: Objectives, expected outcomes. Mr. Abdurahim Muhidov, UNISDR CASC
9:30-10:00	Introduction of the participants
10:00-10:15	Workshop arrangements, "ground rules"
10:15-11:15	Session 1 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR): concepts and guidance frameworks Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-15, Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030. Ms. Madhavi Ariyabandu  Trends and barriers in urban risk reduction and making cities resilient Mr. Armen Rostomyan, UNISDR Global Education and Training Institute (GETI), Incheon
11:15-11:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
11:30-12:30	Session 2 Global Campaign "Making Cities Resilient" (MCR); Implementing MCR Campaign and Campaign Tools: Ten Essentials, implementation experience and examples from CASC region. Mr. Armen Rostomyan
12:30-13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30-15:00	Session 3 Local Government Self-Assessment Tool (LGSAT); City Disaster Resilience Scorecard Tool for Assessment and Diagnosis. Mr. Armen Rostomyan
15:00-15:20	<b>Coffee break</b>

15:20-18:00	<p>Session 4 Applying the MCR tools for assessment and diagnosis. Using LGSAT</p> <p>Working in groups: "Using LGSAT to assess risk management situation in own cities"</p> <p>Presentation of group work outcomes. Mr. Armen Rostomyan</p>
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<b>Day Two</b>	<b>11 June 2015</b>
9:00-9:40	<p>Session 5 Disaster resilience in the city development plan: Governance, Finance, Land use planning, Ecosystems and environment, Climate Change Adaptation examples. (Essentials #1, 2, 3, 4, 5). Ms. Madhavi Ariyabandu, Mr. Armen Rostomyan</p> <p>Plenary Discussion: Sharing participants' own experience in sectoral programs of city development</p>
9:40-11:00	<p>Session 6 Disaster Resilience in the city development plan: Infrastructure/Critical Infrastructure, Housing, Livelihoods, Health (Essentials #6, 7, 8, 9, 10). Ms. Madhavi Ariyabandu, Mr. Armen Rostomyan</p> <p>Plenary Discussion: Sharing participants own experience in sectoral programs of city development</p>
11:00-11:15	Coffee break
11:15-12:30	<p>Communication and advocacy messages in urban risk reduction and resilience. Mr. Andrew McElroy, UNISDR GETI</p>
12:30-13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30-15:00	<p>Session 7 Developing and implementing Safe and Resilient City Action Plan. Mr. Armen Rostomyan</p> <p>Q&amp;A session</p>
15:00-15:15	<b>Coffee break</b>
15:15-17:30	<p>Session 8 Working in groups:" Developing draft Safe and Resilient City Action Plans for the represented cities"</p> <p>Presenting group work outcomes; Plenary discussion</p>

Day Three	12 June 2015
9:00-10:45	Session 9 Setting indicators for monitoring, evaluation and follow-up of resilient city action plan. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, action plans, implementation responsibilities. Mr. Armen Rostomyan  Q & A Session
10:45-11:00	<b>Coffee break</b>
11:00-12:30	Session 10 Work in groups: Setting indicators for monitoring, evaluation and follow-up of draft resilient city action plan (prepared in Session 8). Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, Action plans, Implementation responsibilities. Mr. Armen Rostomyan
12:30-13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30-15:00	Session 11 Continuation of work in groups: Presentation of group work outcomes
15:00-15:15	<b>Coffee break</b>
15.15-17.00	Session 12 Developing a follow up strategy for finalization and effective implementation of the Resilient Cities Action Plans. Mr. Abdurahim Muhidov  Work in groups: Developing a follow up strategy with list of actions needed to finalize the draft Action Plan, ensuring official endorsement and effective implementation of finalised Action Plans in participating cities. Mr. Abdurahim Muhidov
17:00-17.30	Presentation of results of group work
17:30-18:00	Next Steps, Wrap Up and Evaluation of workshop. Mr. Armen Rostomyan  Closing remarks: - Ms. Madhavi Ariyabandu – UNISDR CASC - ECHO Almaty Office

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