Overview of National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

Third Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction – Special Session 2: Disaster Risk Reduction is everyone’s business: Establishing and improving multi-stakeholder national coordinating mechanisms for DRR – Kuala Lumpur – 02 December 2008

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National Platforms – A definition

A nationally owned and led forum or committee of multi-stakeholders for Disaster risk reduction

As such National Platforms are mentioned in the Hyogo Framework for Action’s Priority of Action 1 - Previously referred to in UN Economic and Social Council Resolution 1999/63 and 2005 UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/59/231

“The expression “national platform” is a generic term used for national mechanisms for coordination and policy guidance on disaster risk reduction that need to be multi-sectoral and inter-disciplinary in nature, with public, private and civil society participation involving all concerned entities within a country. National platforms represent the national mechanism for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.” (HFA, §16, 10)

- Ideally build on existing national coordinating mechanisms
- A multi-sectoral-, multi-stakeholder-, multi-level tool
Composition of National Platforms

National (Ministerial) Steering Committee/Cabinet/Parliament/Board

Development, Humanitarian, Climate change communities

NDMC/NDMO/HFA FP “Coordinator”/“Secretariat”

National Platform

CBOs
Red Cross/Crescent
IFRC?

Line Ministries
Technical Services
Academia
Private Sector

Municipalities
Media
UN?

Nat. NGOs
Disaster Victims?

Communities and volunteers

Gender balance

Line Ministries

incl. Planning Finance

Professional associations

Disabled?
Bilat. agencies?

Int. NGOs?

Gender balance

Communities and volunteers
National Platform core functions

- Serve as an **advocate for DRR** at different levels
- **Increase national leadership and commitment to help** the most vulnerable and at risk populations
- **Increase levels of knowledge and skills** on risk reduction

- Be a **catalyst** for national consultations and consensus building
- Provides **coordination, analysis and advice** on areas of priority requiring concerted action through a coordinated and participatory process among national stakeholders (e.g., to mainstreaming DRR into development policies, planning and programmes)

- **Manage the progress** towards achievement of DRR objectives rather than producing a « plan »,
- **Monitors, evaluates and reports**

- Through the HFA Focal point, **serves as national focal point** within the ISDR system and strengthens links with the UNISDR secretariat

**Increase national leadership and commitment** to the sustainability of disaster risk reduction and the implementation of the Hyogo Framework
Countries with National Platforms for DRR
Countries with plans to establish NP

National Platforms declared in Asia Pacific region:
- Seychelles
- Maldives
- Nepal
- Kyrgyzstan
- Tajikistan
- Uzbekistan
- China
- Iran
- Japan
- Kazakhstan
- Philippines
- Sri Lanka
Achievements by National Platforms (1)

• Achieving higher political commitment and engagement of politicians for DRR (Costa Rica, Indonesia, Nigeria, Philippines, ...),

• Integrating DRR into national policy and legislation and development plans (China, Colombia, Djibouti, Kenya, Senegal, Uganda...),

• Mainstreaming DRR in line Ministries and rolling out of capacity-development programmes and support to development of sectoral plans including DRR (Nigeria)

• Setting up sub-national DRM committees and promoting community participation in DRR through awareness-raising and capacity-building activities (China, Japan, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Switzerland, ...),

• Devising a system of decentralized DRM based on the subsidiarity principle involving multi-stakeholders at local, provincial and national level (Colombia),

• Engaging the media, private sector and/or insurance sector for DRR (Germany, Japan, Nigeria, Switzerland, ...)

Achievements by National Platforms (2)

- Multi-stakeholder process to develop Road Map as Action Plan for DRR and definition of terms of references for National Platform (Sri Lanka)

- Joint development of a Contingency Plan for cyclone preparedness following the cluster approach, which substantially reduced number of otherwise expected casualties (Madagascar)

- Support to ISDR processes and initiatives at national, regional and international level through organization of events and conferences, support to the setting up of National Platforms in the region and globally, setting up of a network of National Platforms in Europe, contribution to European Commission green papers related to Disaster risk aspects defining the European Union approach both in Europe and in its development cooperation (Germany, France, Switzerland)

- Linking up with climate change adaptation focal points, contribute to UNFCCC processes, involvement in national adaptation policies and climate risk management and adaptation pilot projects (Germany, Sweden, Argentina, Ecuador)
UNISDR secretariat support to National Platforms

• Promote and help establishing NPs and multi-stakeholder dialogue meetings (led by line-Ministry – implemented in support to/with UN RC)

• Organise/ contribute to global and regional thematic meetings and training with/ among National Platforms (e.g. Climate change and DRR workshops in Panama and in France, Mainstreaming workshop in Africa)

• Develop guidance documents, tools and contribution to ISDR partner work with NPs/ HFA FPs (incl. CCA/UNDAF guidelines, joint publications, etc.)

• Support sharing of NP experiences (« twinning » + good practices, « ISDR-Highlights « and other magazines)

• Jointly run awareness raising campaigns

• Undertake capacity assessments (with CADRI, UNDP)

• Support ministerial meetings in the regions

• Facilitate access to expertise – www.preventionweb.net

• HFA monitor (progress reporting and information sharing)
Asian ministerial conference to discuss disaster risk reduction action plans
1 December 2008
Concerned about the increasing vulnerability of Asian communities, high-level representatives from more than 80 Asian countries will gather tomorrow to discuss policies and measures that can reduce the impact of disasters...

Warning system is about people
27 November 2008
A point of view on the implementation of the Tsunami Early Warning System (TEWS) technology, soon to be operating in Indonesia...

Nepal: Clock ticking for earthquake preparedness
24 November 2008
'We desperately need to put together a plan aimed at reducing the valley's vulnerability, and preparing the city for the inevitable,' said UN Resident Representative in Nepal, Robert Piper...
Themes & Issues


**Capacity Development**
training and development, learning, institutional strengthening

**Civil Society/NGOs**
civic action, collective community action, community-based organization (CBO) action, grassroots action, integrative DRR, non-governmental organization (NGO) action

**Climate Change**
adaptation to climate change, sustainable development

**Community-based DRR**
local knowledge, local risk mapping

**Complex Emergency**
multiple hazard crisis, humanitarian crisis, conflict

**Critical Infrastructure**
communications systems, health facilities, 'lifelines', power and energy, emergency evacuation shelters, financial infrastructure, schools, transportation, waste disposal, water supplies

**Disaster Risk Management**
National Platforms

National Platform List
Officially declared National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction by country.

Key Events for National Platforms
Including workshops and events aimed at establishing and strengthening National Platforms and national coordinating mechanisms.

National Progress Reports
National reports on the progress of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action by country and timeframe.

Key Documents for National Platforms
Including guidelines for implementing the Hyogo Framework, establishing and strengthening National Platforms and national coordinating mechanisms.
**Key Events**

Total number of documents: 4

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<th>Date</th>
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| 26-28 Nov 2008 | Conference on natural disaster risk reduction in the context of the French presidency of the European Union: From past disasters to the climate change challenges in Europe  
Organization: AFPCN, MEEDDAT                                                                                               | France (Paris)    |
| 20-22 Oct 2008 | Reunión consultiva regional de plataformas nacionales de reducción de riesgo de desastres y diálogo sobre adaptación al cambio climático                                                                 | Panama (Panama City) |
| 23-29 Aug 2008 | Workshop on national platforms at the International Disaster and Risk Conference (IDRC) Davos 2008  
Organization: PLANAT, SDC, DKKV, AFPCN, IDRC                                                                                      | Switzerland (Davos) |
| 24-25 Apr 2008 | Meeting of European national platforms and HFA focal points for disaster risk reduction  
Organization: COE, European Network for DRR, UNESCO, UNISDR                                                                   | France (Paris)    |

Please contribute. Submit training or events.

PreventionWeb welcomes submissions from the disaster risk reduction community. Please contribute.
Workshop on national platforms at the International Disaster and Risk Conference (IDRC) Davos 2008

Type: Meeting or Conference
Date: 23-29 Aug 2008
Location: Switzerland
City: Davos
Venue: Hotel Schatzalp and Davos Congress Centre
Language: English

Main organizer
- Association Française pour la Prévention des Catastrophes Naturelles (AFP-CN)
- German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DDKV)
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- Swiss National Platform for Natural Hazards (PLANAT)

Main host
- International Disaster and Risk Conference (IDRC)

Description
The Swiss National Platform for Natural Disaster Reduction (PLANAT) and the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) together with their partners, the German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DDKV) and the Association Française pour la Prévention des Catastrophes Naturelles (AFP-CN), organise as parallel Workshop on...
Colombia National Platform

Description

Our institution was created in the year of 1989, with decree 919 of 10 of May, like answer to the urgent necessity that tapeworm the National government to confront by means of one organizaciona suitable, the innumerable social and economic problems generated by the different factors from public calamity and natural disasters that during the last ones decades have undergone the society and the country in general.

Mission

To orient the management and to coordinate the organizations of the National System for the Prevention and Attention of Disasters, that allow to the prevention and mitigacion of the risks and the organization of the preparations for the attention of emergencies, the rehabilitation and reconstruction in case of disaster; incorporating the concept of prevention in the planning, education and culture of the country, that leads to the diminution of the vulnerability and the catastrophic effects of the natural and antropicos disasters.

Vision

The Direction of Prevention and Attention of Disasters, will be the main state tool of management and coordination within the National System for the Prevention and Attention of Disasters, to obtain that the Colombian society enjoyment of a greater security and well-
Thank you

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