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<th><strong>Session 3</strong> “Institutional mechanisms, frameworks and opportunities (HFA-1) - National Platforms for DRR</th>
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**Second African Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Consultative Meeting**  
Nairobi - 05-07 May 2009

Praveen Pardeshi ,Chief, Regional Co-ordination, UNISDR Secretariat, Geneva, pardeshi@un.org
National Platforms – A definition

• A nationally owned and led forum or committee of multi-stakeholders

• Serves as an advocate for DRR at different levels

• Provides coordination, analysis and advice on areas of priority requiring concerted action through a coordinated and participatory process.

• A commitment to work on prevention, preparedness and mitigation instead of merely focusing on disaster management and recovery

As such it is mentioned in the Hyogo Framework for Action’s Priority of Action 1 – adopted by 168 States
Previously referred to in UN Economic and Social Council Resolution 1999/63 and 2005 UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/59/231
National Platforms – A definition

• Hyogo Framework for Action: “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.” (§16, 10)

• They are preferably not new institutions, but ideally build on existing national coordinating mechanisms to become a more permanent and accessible forum for exchange and decision-making for coordinated DRR as a:
  • multi-sectoral-
  • multi-stakeholder-
  • multi-level tool
ISDR system levels of action (“platforms”)
Define priorities: Strategic information, guidance and assessments of progress

National implementation
National frameworks, multi-stakeholders, and multi disciplinary National Platforms for DRR
Support from UN country team and/or WB – when appropriate

Regional
Based on existing regional and sub-regional strategies and mechanisms
e.g. Africa: African Union with RECs – African Strategy for DRR

Thematic
Building on existing networks, clusters, programmes and other mechanisms
Africa: Drought network; Floods (Climate change); Environment (AMCEN), International Recovery Platform(IRP)

Global Platform for DRR
Biennual sessions
Global Assessment Report
Multi sectoral Composition of National Platforms

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

- Development, Humanitarian, Climate change communities
- UN
- IFRC?
- CBOs
- Red Cross/Crescent
- Professional associations
- Disabled?
- Line Ministries
- Technical Services
- Academia
- Private Sector
- Int. NGOs?
- NDMC/NDMO/HFA FP “Coordinator”/“Secretariat”
- Municipalities
- Media
- National Platform
- National NGOs
- + ?
- Disaster Victims?
- Gender balance

Africa Status Report on DRR: As of 31 March 2009, the total number of Sub-Saharan African countries that have National Platforms (NPs) or any similar national level institutions amounts to 25 including the one in Senegal which were established in 2008, four countries, Guinea Cote d’Ivoire, Gambia and Namibia have been also planning to establish National Platforms. Number of National Platforms (slowly) increasing (51 nowadays) New NPs declared in other regions 2008/09:

- **Asia/Pacific:** Sri Lanka (January 2008), Indonesia (Nov. 2008)
- **Central Asia:** Kazakhstan (January 2008)
- **Europe:** Italy (January 2008), Macedonia, Monaco (April/May 2009)
- **Americas:** Dominican Republic (March 2008), El Salvador, Jamaica (July 2008), Argentina (October 2008), Peru (February 2009)
Countries with National Platforms for DRR
Countries expressing interest to develop NPs

- Seychelles
- Cape Verde
- Maldives
- Djibouti
- Bangladesh
- Bahrain
- Kyrgyzstan
- Tajikistan
- Uzbekistan
- Nepal
- Viet Nam
- Bangladesh
- Costa Rica, El Salvador, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Burundi, Maldives, Seychelles
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 global and regional thematic meetings and training with/ among National Platforms (e.g. African workshop on mainstreaming DRR in April 2008)

- 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

- HFA monitor (progress reporting and information sharing)
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.
Discussion Fora: From Discussions to Reducing loss of Lives and Livelihoods: Implementation:

Have National Platforms (or other multi-stakeholder national coordination mechanisms) in Africa reached their full potential and respond to what is expected from them in terms of inclusive national coordination, support for mainstreaming, advocacy, awareness-raising and capacity development, measuring and reporting on progress?

If not, what is needed to improve their role and functioning? Which specific action points do you suggest and who should be involved in it?
Discussion points (cont’d)

1. **Official and de facto recognition of National Platform**/ other multi-stakeholder national mechanism as important entity to consult for decision-making on DRR/ development programming and implementation (and **de facto progress in influencing policy making, programmes and implementation**) – appropriate institutional anchoring,

2. **Inclusiveness** of existing systems and National Platforms (**Does any stakeholder have a voice? Do we effectively galvanize the full potential of diverse actors?**),

3. Link between the national and the sub-national local level (**relevance of National Platform action for local level risk reduction/ building of resilience**)

4. **Effectiveness of information-sharing and exchange on a regional/ sub-regional and international scale** (**Do we learn from others? Do others learn from us? Do we have/ do we use appropriate information-sharing channels?**)
Way forward/ Global Platform/ HFA mid-term review

What is African National Platforms‘ message and recommendations to the ISDR community and beyond gathering at Global Platform in June 2009 in Geneva?

How should the Global Platform‘s Chair summary support National Platforms?

Which decisions and key action should be taken at national, regional/ sub-regional and global level on National Platforms by 2011 and 2015?
Thank you

United Nations, secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
International Environment House II
7-9 Chemin de Balexert, CH 1219 Chatelaine
Geneva 10, Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 917 8908/8907
Fax: +41 22 917 8964
isdr@un.org