



Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Fourth Session - Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow

Geneva, Switzerland, 19-23 May 2013

Name and Type of Event	Effective normative framework for disaster risk reduction (Consultation Meeting)
Date	20 May 2013
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Number of Participants	45

1) What were the key messages, outcomes and recommendations from your event?

- The discussions highlighted a very interesting variety of practices and approaches in the use of binding and non-binding instruments, and incentives for implementation.
- Many countries are developing binding normative frameworks of different nature, highlighting the fact that it is felt that prevention and disaster risk reduction needs to be made an explicit and binding obligation.
- Disaster management laws alone cannot support the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction and prevention across other areas. Sectoral laws, when being developed, need to incorporate risk management questions.
- The development of normative frameworks, and thus their coherence, needs to be based on clear priority criteria – and therefore it is important to have that dialogue at local and national level to agree on those. The set criteria will in turn facilitate the planning and the allocation of resources.
- There is an increasing need and quest for sectoral / specific regulations as well as voluntary standards, which are helpful to the development of policies and norms.
- Law in itself is not enough. Implementation depends on other factors such as awareness, knowledge, education, training, and financial and fiscal incentives/conditionality, as well as the balanced allocation of resources between the central and local level of the administration. Also, the assumption of responsibility at the local level is critical.

- Effective implementation requires the development of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms which need to be foreseen in the policies and/or norms.
- Risk knowledge and information is the foundation of effective normative frameworks and their implementation. There are many practices in a number of countries to make risk-related information available, or information disclosure compulsory. Risk mapping remains of fundamental importance to develop regulatory frameworks and to planning.
- It was felt as very important the need to develop instruments of binding and non-binding nature to stimulate the engagement of the private sector, including through the market.
- Risk management requires action across many areas and institutional competence. The definition of clear roles and responsibilities is a challenge. The need to have a clear “authority” within the institutional framework which can drive the agenda.