



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	Regional Consultation with African Delegates
Date	20 May 2013
Reporters name and contact details	Animesh Kumar Programme Officer, UNISDR Regional Office for Africa
Number of Participants	150

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

- Emphasize the need to address emerging challenges like growing urbanization in a changing climate, and increased socio-economic vulnerability of communities, by ensuring accessible and user-friendly climate information
- Increased funding and technical support for local governments to achieve community-based responses to both measure the incidents and impact of risk and establish how best to build disaster resilience within communities.
- Emphasize the need to mobilize growing capacities of academic and research institutions in Africa for building resilience
- Recognised the need to address risks as relevant to specific areas, particularly in context of the Small Island Developing States.
- Call upon the private sector to build on the sustainable development agenda while strongly reorienting itself to evolving green economies

2) Based on the Synthesis Report of the HFA2 consultation process up to the GP13, what are specific recommendations and concrete examples for the main topics, themes and issues to be addressed in the HFA2?

- HFA should reinforce improvements related to mechanisms for coordination and dialogue, definition of indicators and ways to monitor and report.
- Need for increased accountability and transparency in implementing disaster risk reduction
- Need to focus on national and international information systems on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, including strong early warning systems and national disaster loss databases.
- Need to give higher emphasis on addressing the underlying causes of risks

- Strengthen and deepen coordination between national platforms and the Regional Platform
- Need to address the conflict dimension, as there is strong evidence that natural disasters can increase the risk of conflict and that conditions of conflict can increase the vulnerability to natural disasters, hence undermining resilience.
- Sensitize line ministries about the contents of the Hyogo Framework for Action, therefore enhancing dissemination and guidance through media or other on the current and future benefits of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

Final Outcome of the Event: Africa position for the Global Platform was finalized and it was unanimously agreed that the African Union will deliver it to the Platform.