



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	Scientific and Technical Platforms / Networks Consultation Meeting (by invitation only)
Date	20 May 2013
Reporters name	
Number of Participants	

Achievements and future goals

A total of 19 platforms and networks presented their achievements in the past years and their future plans and perspectives in supporting HFA2. This first gathering and exchange of information was highly appreciated by all participants. The UNISDR Scientific and Technological Advisory Group (STAG) took stock of the achievements of these networks and platforms¹. Platforms and networks cover a broad range in disaster risk reduction – some of them focusing more on science and technology, some more on education and training, and some more on implementation and awareness raising.

In line with the STAG report prepared for the Global Platform for Disaster Risk reduction 2013 with its focus on “Science: useful, useable and used“, the presentations and discussions resulted in the consensus that scientific and technological platforms have proven science to be useful, useable and used in disaster risk management. However, there was also consensus that the available research output is not yet fully used. To improve that situation and making research for an even more efficient and effective policy and implementation process promoter, a possibility can be to encourage the users to clearly express their needs, and thus research becoming more demand driven. It was agreed that the Science and Technology platforms and networks provide added value to this process and therefore should be encouraged to continue their work. Mechanisms as well as some standards should be developed on how future collaboration and coordination amongst the different platforms can be facilitated and even more synergies being gained. A strong will and need for future periodic

¹ The powerpoint presentations of all platforms and networks presented can be found on preventionweb.net

gatherings was expressed. Participants also expressed their concern and commitment for the following issues:

- Science should further develop and strengthen the multi-sectorial and multi-disciplinary approach, especially including social science, and addressing all local, national and international levels.
- Also, a gap in knowledge and data management was highlighted, therefore mechanisms for the collection, access and sharing of knowledge and data on national and international level should be improved.

Based on the stock-taking event, the organizers of the event will follow up with the platforms and networks with a more detailed questionnaire. The STAG will evaluate these questionnaires, share the results with the members of the platforms and networks and make some suggestions for further strengthening of future collaboration.