Asia Regional Task Force
On Urban Risk Reduction

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www.unisdr.org
The Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction (RTF-URR)

Currently represented by 16 members and open for expansion

The Goals of the RTF:
- To enhance decisive actions to reduce risk and increase community resilience in the urban areas in the Asia region.

The Objectives of the RTF:
- To act as an advocacy vehicle to major urban policy bodies;
- To provide a platform for collective information and knowledge development sharing;
- To facilitate interactions and cooperation among related organizations and stakeholders for collaborative efforts.
In line with HFA implementation, some concrete initiatives within the RTF-URR:

- URR Status Report in Asia and Inventory of Urban Risk Reduction Initiatives
- ‘RADIUS plus 10’ as the follow up project of the original RADIUS.
- Production of the Guideline for the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action for local governments ‘Localizing HFA’
- Publication ‘City Profile: Climate and Disaster Resilience’ (launched February 2009)
A Guide to Localizing the Hyogo Framework for Action
Introduction

• What
  – Making “Words into Action” HFA implementation guideline for local governments
  – Local context based on experiences & sound practices: towns/cities in Indonesia, India, Philippines and others

• Target audience
  Local government staff and officials, key representatives of local communities & institutions
Structure

Chapter 1. Introduction
Chapter 2. Getting started
Chapter 3. HFA-1: Making disaster risk reduction a priority
Chapter 4. HFA-2: Identity, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning
Chapter 5. HFA-3: Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels
Chapter 6. HFA-4: Reduce the underlying risk factors
Chapter 7. HFA-5: Strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery

According to HFA five priorities, Each Chapter 3-7 has:
i) Summary table of the tasks
ii) Tools
iii) Examples (good practices/case study)
Chapter 2: Getting Started
4 pointers before undertaking tasks

Put emphasis on process.
- Inclusive & participatory
- Multi-stakeholder dialogues/workshops
- Consultations
- Feedback mechanisms
- Consensus building

Know where you are.
- Situational context
- Baseline characteristics
- Benchmarking
- Town/city profile

Start simple.
- Suitable scale
- Available resources
- Joint activities
- Linkages with stakeholders
- Learning by doing
- Developing knowledge base & action plans

Keep track of performance/update information.
- Strategic approach towards functional & useful information system
- Monitoring
- Indicators
Local DRR 20 Tasks (1)

- **Local governance**
  Task 2. Create or strengthen mechanisms for systematic coordination for DRR.
  Task 3. Assess and develop the institutional basis for disaster risk reduction.
  Task 4. Prioritize disaster risk reduction and allocate appropriate resources.

- **Risk assessment and early warning**
  Task 5. Establish an initiative for local risk assessment to combine with country assessments.
  Task 6. Review the availability of risk-related information and the capacities for data collection and use.
  Task 7. Assess capacities and strengthen early warning systems.
  Task 8. Develop communication and dissemination mechanisms for disaster risk information and early warning.
Local DRR Tasks (2)

• **Knowledge management**
  Task 9. Develop a programme to raise awareness of disaster risk reduction of DRR consistent with that of the country.
  Task 10. Develop or utilize DRR training for key sectors based on identified priorities.
  Task 11. Enhance the compilation, dissemination and use of disaster risk reduction information.

• **Vulnerability reduction**
  Task 13. Social needs: Establish mechanisms for increasing resilience of the poor and the most vulnerable.
  Task 14. Physical planning: Establish measures to incorporate disaster risk reduction in urban and land-use planning.
  Task 17. Financial/economic instruments: Create opportunities for private sector involvement in DRR.
  Task 18. Emergency and public safety; disaster recovery: Develop a recovery planning process that incorporates DRR.

• **Disaster preparedness**
  Task 19. Review disaster preparedness capacities and mechanisms.
  Task 20. Strengthen planning and programming for disaster preparedness.
Chapter 3-7

According to five priorities of HFA,

- **Introduction, the Stakeholders, Indicators**
- **Summary table: tasks, local indicator/link with national HFA monitor indicator, guide questions**
- **Tools**
- **Cases and examples in highlight boxes**
# HFA-2 Summary Table

Table 7.1. Summary table for HFA Priority for Action 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HFA Task</th>
<th>Local indicator</th>
<th>National HFA Monitor indicator</th>
<th>Guide questions</th>
<th>Tools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Establish an initiative for local risk assessments to combine with country assessments. | Local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability are available and utilized. | A. National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors. | • Are local government and NGOs committed to provide technical and other support to local and community hazard/risk assessments?  
• Does the local government obtain support in the form of systematic hazard/risk assessments, and good quality hazard/risk data?  
• Are hazard/risk assessments updated?  
• Are community hazard/risk assessments carried out? Do they provide a comprehensive picture of all major hazards and risks (including potential risks) that the community faces?  
• How participatory is hazard/risk assessment done? Are representatives of all sectors of the community and sources of expertise represented?  
• Are skills and capacity to carry out hazard/risk assessments maintained through training and other forms of support? | Hazard/risk mapping  
Hazard assessment  
Risk assessment  
Community profiling  
Community watching and resource mapping  
Town watching  
Resource assessment |
# HFA-2 Examples

## Indicators
- Local risk assessment available & utilized
- Local & community systems in place to monitor, archive & disseminate data
- Local warning system in place
- Local disaster-related activities to monitor regional/transboundary risks.

## Tools
- Local risk assessment
  - Disaster town watching
  - Vulnerability & capacity assessment
- Gap analysis (including risk-related information)
- Early warning system
- Communication & dissemination mechanisms for disaster risk information & early warning.

## Examples
- Local level risk management pilot project: Beyond early warning and response (Navua, Fiji)
- Community radio as an immediate warning system (Labo, Philippines)
## C. Early warning systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>The objective of an early warning system (EWS) is to put people out of harm’s way from hazards by alerting them of impending threat.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relevance</td>
<td>Early warning system (EWS) is the provision of timely and effective information, through identified institutions, that allows individuals exposed to a hazard to take action to avoid or reduce their risk and prepare for effective response. Thus, the EWS empowers individuals and communities threatened by hazards to protect themselves from personal injury, loss of life, damage to property and the environment, and loss of livelihoods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to do it</td>
<td>EWS should be people-centred. This means that warning systems must recognize human needs and human behaviour; it must be developed with local participation from both women and men. People-centred early warning has four elements (Figure 7.2): risk knowledge, monitoring and warning service, dissemination and communication, response capability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capacity to provide the four elements must be assessed in order to identify areas of weakness and necessary measures to fill gaps. All elements should be in place. If one element is not effective, this may result in failure of the entire system.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>On the basis of the four elements, local actions are rather important for the EWS to work.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Some steps to take include:</td>
<td>(1) The work group assesses the current EWS in terms of: defined roles and responsibilities for all relevant organizations (and that all stakeholders should be aware of these); cross-border arrangement for system integration; local autonomy and community participation.</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>(2) Check the process by which all agencies generate and issue warnings, for easy data collection and analysis, and standardize it.</td>
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<td>(3) Ensure that hazard monitoring system is effectively working; local government and communities can help ensure that hazard monitoring and warning centres are staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through volunteers who are willing be trained.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Summing up

For an effective people-centre early warning system, input from key technical experts is critical. It is essential that the country has access to such expertise, including those with technical background for monitoring, as well as response. Often, cooperation with national, regional and international organizations involved in the four elements of early warning is necessary. These include World Meteorological Organization (WMO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); World Health Organization (WHO); Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. At the local level, volunteers from the community can provide valuable staff to hazard monitoring and early warning stations. Early warning champions who strive to raise awareness in the community must be given ample opportunity to carry out their mission.
Next Steps

• Feedback, comments & suggestions on the consultation version (Questionnaire is available)
• Peer review by several experts
• Presentation to local government officials
• Finalization of the Guide “Localizing HFA”
• Training opportunities
City Profile – climate and disaster resilience
Banda Aceh  Hue  Iloilo  Makati  Mumbai  San Fernando  Sukabumi  Suwon  Yokohama
CDRI Analysis: future/on-going activities

• Further analysis on cities:
Cities in South Asia, ASEAN, Indian Cities (coastal, mountain and river-basin)

• Cluster of mega-cities: Metro Manila (17 cities)

• City based approach: Mumbai, Incheon, Kobe etc
RTF-URR Planning for 2009 – 2010

On going activities and continued to the next phase:
- Localizing HFA production
- RADIUS plus 10 Project
- Good Practice Publication on Urban Risk Reduction in Asia
- The ISDR Global Campaign on URR 2010-2011
The Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction

• Current members:
ADPC, ADRC, CITYNET, EMI, IRP secretariat, JICA, Kobe University, Kyoto University, NSET, SEEDS, UNCRD, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNISDR, UNU and WHO

• Chair: Mr. Rajib Shaw, Kyoto University

• Vice-chair: Ms. Etsuko Tsunozaki, SEEDS Asia

• Coordinator: UNISDR Hyogo Office Ms. Yuki Matsuoka

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Thank you very much