



Global Platform
for Disaster Risk Reduction
Third Session, Geneva, Switzerland
8-13 May 2011

Proceedings

of the Third Session of the Global Platform
for Disaster Risk Reduction and World
Reconstruction Conference

Geneva, Switzerland
8-13 May 2011

Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow
Increase Investment in Local Action



In collaboration with the World Reconstruction Conference

Acknowledgements

The secretariat of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) expresses its deep appreciation to donors providing direct financial support to the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, including: Germany, Sweden and Switzerland as Gold Sponsors (contribution greater than USD500,000); Australia, the European Commission, Luxembourg and Norway as Silver Sponsors (contribution USD100,000 to USD500,000); and Hungary as a Bronze Sponsor (contribution less than USD100,000).

Our thanks also goes to donors who regularly contribute to the UNISDR, including: Argentina, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain and the United States. The support is essential to a successful Global Platform. UNISDR expresses its gratitude to the large number of organizations and individuals who contributed to the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. A special thank you is reserved for the World Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) for hosting the World Reconstruction Conference as an integral part of the Third Session of the Global Platform.

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) is the United Nations-mandated global strategy to engage a wide range of actors in a coordinated effort to reduce the risks of disasters and to build “a culture of prevention” in society as part of sustainable development. The UNISDR acts as the focal point in the UN system for the coordination of disaster reduction as well as to ensure that disaster risk reduction becomes integral to sound and equitable development, environmental protection and humanitarian action.

The ISDR system comprises the cooperative mechanisms, including most importantly, the biennial Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, through which governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, international financial institutions, technical institutions and networks, and civil society organisations interact, share information and collaborate on risk reduction programmes and activities.

UNISDR coordinates the partnerships and leads a global disaster risk reduction movement focused on meeting the objectives of the Hyogo Framework of Action.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	1
Table of Contents	3
Opening Statement by the Secretary-General of the United Nations	4
Foreword by the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations	6
Opening Statement by the Managing Director of the World Bank	8
Reflections by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction	14
Format and Schedule of the Third Session of the Global Platform	18
Proceedings	20
Preparatory Events	20
Official Opening of the Third Session	22
Official Plenary Statements	25
The Plenary Sessions	25
Informal Plenary Sessions	29
Roundtables	31
Featured Events	42
World Reconstruction Conference Thematic Sessions	47
Side Events	51
Annex 1. List of IGNITE Stage Presentations	57
Annex 2. Statement of Commitment by the Private Sector for Disaster Prevention, Resilience and Risk Reduction	62
Annex 3. Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction	65
Annex 4. Mayors' Statement on Resilient Cities for the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction	67
Annex 5. Joint Statement on Scaling-up Community-based Health Workforces	69
Annex 6. List of Acronyms	73
Annex 7. List of Participating States, Territories and Entities	74



Opening Statement

BAN Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

It is a great pleasure to be with you at the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. You are at the forefront of reducing disaster risk and building communities of resilience in every corner of the globe. Thank you for coming together for this vital cause.

I am also pleased that this Platform will recognize the work of some outstanding champions for disaster risk reduction, such as H.E. Mr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of Indonesia. I also congratulate the winners of the Sasakawa Award for their innovative and sustainable work on disaster risk reduction.

The aim of the Global Platform is to reduce risk of disasters, through technology, knowledge and economic tools. But for many of us, this mission is also deeply personal. The United Nations is the global first responder to disasters and crises. As Secretary-General, I have seen the devastation of Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar, the destruction from the epic floods in Pakistan, the horrific impact of earthquakes in Haiti, Western China and Chile. I have looked in the eyes of those who have lost loved ones. I have listened to those who have seen the world they know disappear in a flash. And I have struggled to answer their simple, one-word question: Why?

Recently I was in Chernobyl, Ukraine. The hand of man was responsible for that catastrophe 25 years ago. But the earthquake and tsunami in Japan gave us the disaster in Fukushima with all its echoes of Chernobyl and a grave warning to the future.

As we have learned again and again, no country or city – rich or poor – is immune. But alongside the dangers from disaster rests the dangerous myth that acts of nature are just that – unavoidable or inevitable. By our actions, we can either compound disasters or diminish them. The difference is in preparedness. The difference is in us, in you.

We are at the mid-point of the Hyogo Framework for Action. There has been substantial progress at the global, regional and national levels. That is one of the main messages of the 2011 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction which we are launching at the Global Platform. It shows that as countries invest more in early warning and preparedness, mortality risk from floods and cyclones is trending down. At the same time, economic loss and damage to homes, schools, health facilities and livelihoods are on the rise.

I would like to make three points to advance our work in disaster risk reduction. First, we must accelerate our efforts. The world's vulnerability to disaster risks is growing faster than our ability to increase resilience. As a result of global climate change, weather-related hazards are on the rise. Nuclear safety and the threat of

multiple hazards add an even greater sense of urgency. I know that making the case for investments in risk reduction can be an uphill struggle, particularly in tough economic times. But we also know that solutions may be more a matter of spending wisely, not spending more.

Even small investments in building, planning and training can yield remarkable results. These have been proven for example when we use our resources to strengthen local capacities, provide effective early warning systems, and undertake good land use planning and safe designs of public buildings. A focus must also be on the needs of women.

Second, let us broaden the coalition for action. Disaster risk reduction is everyone's business. I am encouraged that here, at this Platform, we have an unprecedented assembly of mayors and other local leaders, parliamentarians, civil society leaders, the private sector leaders, and policymakers. Let us work together to create communities of resilience. Let me assure you that the United Nations is fully committed. We will continue to integrate disaster risk reduction and preparedness, as well as climate change adaptation measures, into our work around the world.

That leads me to my third and final point: Let us risk-proof development. I also attended the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Istanbul. The economies of the LDCs and small island developing states suffer the most from disasters - much of it driven by poverty, weather and climate variability and climate change. No development effort will be equitable or sustainable unless disaster and climate risk measures are a part of the picture. It is time to better connect risk reduction with sustainable development, especially as we prepare for the 2012 Rio-plus 20 Conference.

By its very nature, the work of risk reduction may go unsung. The flood or earthquake one plans for may not happen for years, even generations. And when it does, success is measured by what does not occur: The school that did not collapse; the building that did not fall; the village that was not destroyed. But it goes far deeper. Your efforts are really about making sure that despite the fury and force of natural hazards, communities can continue to thrive ... families can continue to prosper ... children can continue to dream.

That is the essence of your work. And there is nothing more meaningful than that. I thank you again for mobilizing your force for good to confront any force of nature. Let us work together with your strong leadership and commitment to make this world better and safer for all.



Foreword

Dr Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Reduction

The 2011 Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, which also featured the first-ever World Reconstruction Conference, was by far the best attended of these biennial events. Among the record-setting 2,600+ participants were representatives from more than 163 governments, 25 inter-governmental organizations, 65 non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academic institutions, and United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes.

The Global Platform has become one of the international community's leading vehicles for wide-ranging and comprehensive discussions on disaster risk reduction. This Third Session featured attendees with formidable expertise and skills in risk planning, response and mitigation, who are driven by a desire to find tangible solutions to the impacts of the increasing number and intensity of hazards being experienced in all regions.

Under the theme “Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow – Increase Investment in Local Action”, the Third Session underscored the necessity of building resilience in local communities. We deepened our economic understanding of risk reduction and highlighted ways to connect this issue with the challenges of climate change adaptation and sustainable development. We also identified critical future steps, based largely on the results of the Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework of Action. With palpable energy coursing through the various plenary sessions, roundtables, side events and marketplace, the gathering helped to significantly raise the profile, awareness and commitment to disaster risk reduction.

The painstaking work of prevention will never get as many headlines as a devastating blow from Mother Nature. But we are not looking for headlines; our imperative is to provide safety and security for the world's most vulnerable people. Disasters are bound to strike. We are bound, by moral obligation and common sense, to do everything we can to be ready when they do. This publication shows an international community united in its efforts to uphold this responsibility; I commend its contents to a wide global audience.

3RD

GLOBAL PLATFORM for Disaster Risk Reduction

Invest Today for
a Safer Tomorrow
Increase Investment
in Local Action





Opening Statement

Ms Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Managing Director of the World Bank

It is with great pleasure that I join you for the opening of the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Reduction and the World Reconstruction Conference. Never has such an event been timelier: the images of the lives and communities destroyed in recent catastrophes have touched us all. In Pakistan, Haiti, and Japan we have seen the many faces of disasters: the human tragedy of lost family, friends, and jobs; the physical devastation of homes, schools, and hospitals; the financial and economic burden of recovery and reconstruction.

The frequency of disasters is increasing and their economic costs rising. Rapid urbanization and the risks associated with a changing climate can further accelerate this trend. According to recent studies, the number of people living with the threat of earthquakes and cyclones in cities could triple by 2050. And we know that the poorest are always hit first and hardest. The 21st Century will increasingly be defined by how we address these global challenges.

Now, at the World Bank, I see a global effort underway to support countries as they prepare for and reduce the risks of natural hazards. And it's a global effort to share good practices and lessons learned. One of our key priorities is to integrate modern disaster risk management practices into the development strategies and investment policies of the countries we work with.

I am pleased to report that, in the last three years, 60 Country Assistance Strategies and 39 Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers have addressed disaster and climate change adaptation issues. This is a good start – and we will build on it.

The first World Reconstruction Conference builds on our commitment and provides space not only to share our experiences and learn from each other, but also to agree on how we should work more effectively together to meet growing needs – in both reducing risk and recovering from disasters and developing a framework for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.

In this context, I would like to highlight three key areas that are important for us to work on in order to achieve progress: developing an effective framework for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction; improving access to reliable reconstruction and recovery finance; and integrating risk mitigation and climate change adaptation in all reconstruction and development activities.

Disaster prevention pays, both in terms of lives saved and budgets protected; better still, it often does not cost more. In addition, low-cost mitigation measures can be very effective. We need to assist countries in guiding the incentive structures and policy environment towards risk mitigation and climate change adaptation. At the same time, I would like to urge international organizations, donors, NGOs, and the private sector to intensify their efforts to integrate risk mitigation and climate change adaptation in their regular development and investment portfolios.

To achieve progress in these areas I have highlighted, action is needed on many fronts, and in particular in the management of knowledge, the development of partnerships, and the cultivation of innovation. I am very encouraged by the testimony of partnership, cooperation, knowledge sharing, and innovation, which is the solid basis of the Global Platform and the World Reconstruction Conference. This forum offers an unparalleled opportunity to explore these ideas and advance the discussion in these critical areas. I am personally excited to contribute to this effect and I look forward to challenging debates and ideas for moving ahead in partnership.

Chair's Summary

Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Reconstruction Conference, Geneva, 8-13 May 2011

1. The Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the World Reconstruction Conference met in Geneva, 8-13 May 2011. Opened by the United Nations Secretary-General BAN Ki-moon and chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Global Platform recognized H.E. Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia as a Global Champion of Disaster Risk Reduction.
2. This Session of the Global Platform brought together the broadest ever cross-section of people committed to building resilience – including several Heads of State, Ministers, a Managing Director of the World Bank, over 2,600 delegates representing 163 governments, 25 intergovernmental organizations, 65 non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians, private sector, local government, academic institutions, civil society and international organizations.
3. Half of humanity is now living in cities. By 2050 urbanization will rise to 70 percent and urban risk will increase as well. Risk is further driven by factors such as rural and urban poverty, climate change, declining ecosystems, and development choices including in energy infrastructure. Commitment to resilience is urgently needed particularly in vulnerable groups, localities and regions including SIDS and LDC's.
4. The Mid-Term Review states that significant progress is being made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and that its principles have been firmly established and endorsed. The discussions at the Third Session demonstrated that we now possess the knowledge, the means and the commitment to make disaster risk reduction a national, local and international priority. There is a sense of urgency and clear political and economic imperatives to invest in disaster risk reduction.
5. The UN Secretary-General called for a coalition of action for disaster risk reduction and announced a high-level meeting during the next General Assembly to address the link between natural hazards and nuclear safety. Japan offered to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015.
6. Mayors renewed their commitment to the Ten Essentials of the “My City is Getting Ready” Campaign. Private sector participants agreed on Five Essentials for Business and issued a Statement of Commitment for Disaster Prevention, Resilience and Risk Reduction. A joint statement called for scaling-up community health forces as vital for disaster reduction. Young people came together to advance a Five Point Charter on Children and Disaster Reduction. Regional organizations reaffirmed their commitment to implementing regional strategies agreed to in ministerial meetings worldwide.
7. The choice before us as Governments, institutions, communities and individuals is to place disaster risk reduction at the forefront of our efforts to preserve and protect the balance of nature, ensure sustainable development and well-being for generations to come. To do so, we need to:
 - 7.1 Support local governments and non-state actors as the front line of risk reduction implementation.
 - 7.2 Draw upon the untapped potential of local actors and build on the role of women as agents of change.
 - 7.3 Involve children and youth in disaster risk reduction decisions that affect their future as a practical way to ensure effective local action.
 - 7.4 Fully engage the private sector as leaders in the construction of resilient infrastructure, sustainable development of urban areas, energy safety, and the protection of critical resources.

- 7.5 Build on the role that parliamentarians play in setting state policy and norms, oversight and scrutiny, legislation and the creation of enabling environments for risk reduction.
 - 7.6 Build on the work of and linkages between national and regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, strengthening in particular, multi-stakeholder collaboration.
 - 7.7 Promote the role of regional and sub-regional organizations in coordinating implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.
 - 7.8 Actively engage and support scientific and technical communities to inform decision making.
 - 7.9 Strengthen and resource UNISDR to support the implementation of recommendations from this Platform acknowledging its leadership role within the United Nations on disaster risk reduction.
8. The Third Session of the Global Platform identified the following critical steps:
- 8.1 Recall and act upon the commitments at the Second Session of the Global Platform in 2009 that set targets for disaster risk reduction (see Box inset).
 - 8.2 Increase investment in disaster risk reduction at the local level and ensure national growth does not increase local risks. Address local action directly in national growth targets, plans and policies. Strengthen capacities of local governments and ensure resource availability. Encourage collaboration with communities and volunteers including through participatory risk assessments and local multi-stakeholder monitoring and reporting.
 - 8.3 Develop standards and indicators for measuring the effectiveness of disaster risk reduction at both the national and regional levels to guide public and private sector investments and improve quality and consistency in implementation.
 - 8.4 Account for disaster losses in a standardized manner to support multi-hazard, integrated assessments as the basis for development decision-making and open-source risk public information.
 - 8.5 Increase dedicated budget allocations for disaster risk reduction by using risk assessment, budgetary planning and project evaluation mechanisms, in all development investments. Create incentives for investing in prevention. Protect public finances with contingency mechanisms, including insurance.
 - 8.6 Track investments in disaster risk reduction to provide clear evidence of the costs and benefits of investments through verifiable and accountable data to Governments and the public and as a further means of promoting aid-effectiveness.
 - 8.7 Provide guidance to National Platforms to improve the effectiveness and support the executive level of decision-making. Ensure that responsibility for disaster risk reduction is backed by the necessary political authority to increase implementation across sectors through increased engagement with parliamentarians, local authorities and civil society.
 - 8.8 Strengthen public awareness of disaster risks through promoting universal access to risk information, education, building social demand for disaster risk reduction and promote individual safety and responsibility. Use available communication technologies to provide clear and concise information.
 - 8.9 Identify and prepare for emerging risks, including those associated with technological hazards and pandemics, through scientifically-informed multi-hazard risk assessments and scenario development. Encourage cross-sectoral cooperation that makes best use of available information and technology.

- 8.10 Avoid the inefficient use of existing resources by ensuring technologies for risk reduction are accessible as a means for adaptation and promoting integrated approaches to development that address climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and ecosystem management and restoration.
- 8.11 Ensure the availability of tailored science-based climate-related information through the Global Framework for Climate Services to support informed investment and planning at all levels. Incorporate, as well, integrated drought management, wild land fire management and food security in risk reduction policies and development planning.
- 8.12 Adapt innovative social protection and ecosystem management mechanisms to reduce disaster impacts based on understanding of the dynamics of vulnerability and ensuring protection of the most vulnerable households, communities and social groups.
- 8.13 Welcome the continued work of the Advisory Group for the Mid-Term Review of Hyogo Framework in advising on the follow-up to the Global Platform and contributing to the formulation of a post-2015 instrument, the first outline of which is to be reviewed in 2013 and finalized in 2014.
- 8.14 Support identification and preparedness for emerging risks, through recommending to the UN Secretary-General that he constitute a group of eminent, disaster risk reduction experts to report at the Fourth Session of the Global Platform.
- 8.15 Ensure attention to disaster risk reduction in upcoming meetings, such as the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference in Indonesia, Rio+20, UNFCCC mechanisms, the 6th World Urban Forum and the Aid-Effectiveness Meeting in 2011. Support implementation of the Millennium Development Goals by promoting risk reduction strategies that protect development investments.

9. The World Reconstruction Conference

- 9.1 Recognized that support to countries overwhelmed by the scale and cost of post-disaster reconstruction is often inadequately coordinated. Uneven and unpredictable financing does not always reach those who need it. Few countries incorporate disaster prevention into reconstruction and recovery planning, thus threatening development prospects and sustainability of investments.
- 9.2 Recognized, based on lessons from previous experience, that well-planned and coordinated recovery achieves better results at lower cost, and supports sustainability and disaster resilience. Leadership, partnership and coordinated support from the international community are essential to success.
- 9.3 Committed to developing an effective recovery and reconstruction framework. This recovery framework would aim to:
 - Better define roles and responsibilities within clear institutional arrangements;
 - Effectively capitalize on the strengths of each stakeholder;
 - Clearly place countries in the driver's seat on decision-making and resource allocation;
 - Systematically integrate disaster risk reduction in reconstruction and recovery;
 - Provide in-time relevant knowledge and lessons learned; and
 - Assist in establishing robust and transparent quality and result monitoring systems.
- 9.4 Committed to developing improved systems and instruments for recovery and reconstruction finance and welcomed the leadership of the World Bank and the role of other international financial institutions in this effort. These mechanisms would provide access to reliable reconstruction financing; build capacity to manage the surge of resources; effectively integrate the resources of non-traditional donors; and access the global capital market.

- 9.5 Promoted a global reconstruction and recovery knowledge practice, linking practitioners and networks working on reconstruction and recovery to provide open access to data and information.
10. The Third Session of the Global Platform closed with a call for strengthened global leadership to address rapidly increasing risk to stability and sustainability posed by our approach to development. This Chair's Summary will be followed-up and reported on in the Fourth Session of the Global Platform.

www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2011

Commitments at the Second Session of the Global Platform in 2009

By 2011, national assessments of the safety of existing education and health facilities should be undertaken.

By 2015, concrete action plans for safer schools and hospitals should be developed and implemented in all disaster prone countries.

Disaster risk reduction should be included in all school curricula by the same year.

By 2015, all major cities in disaster-prone areas should include and enforce disaster risk reduction measures in their building and land use codes.

Targets also proposed for national risk assessments, municipal disaster recovery.

The UN Secretary-General called for a target to halve the losses of lives from disasters by 2015, when the term of the Hyogo Framework for Action ends.

10 percent of humanitarian relief funds to disaster risk reduction work.

10 percent as a target share of post-disaster reconstruction and recovery projects and national preparedness and response plans.

At least **1 percent** of all national development funding and all development assistance funding to be allocated to risk reduction measures, with due regard for quality of impact.



Reflections

Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction

“A pivotal point” is the phrase that best encapsulates the Third Session of the Global Platform in May 2011. The lines of registrants in the days prior to the opening day, the never ending movement of people moving through the effervescent market place, the vibrant atmosphere and positive energy permeating the meeting rooms, were all testament to a Global Platform that has indeed redirected the course of disaster risk reduction. And on the final day, as the Third Platform closed and the over 2,600 participants departed for various parts of the world, there was a shared sense that something irreversible had taken place.

Throughout the Third Session, countries reported on their accomplishments vis-à-vis disaster risk reduction. Some six to eight years ago, many States were still learning about risk reduction and how to cope with the impacts of a disaster. How much has changed since then? Today, National and Regional Platforms are providing forums for collaborative approaches to risk reduction around the globe, and governments are taking concrete steps, through policy and planning, to prepare for, and respond to risk events. From Afghanistan’s checklist of completed Hyogo Framework for Action priorities, to Viet Nam’s implementation of its National Strategy for Natural Disaster Prevention, Response and Mitigation to 2020, States are becoming increasingly involved by creating community-based disaster risk management programmes.

In the five days of deliberations, discussions and presentations via various forums, States and the other delegations coalesced into one voice for strong community involvement and engagement as the crucial factor in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, which will increase the resilience of countries and communities at risk to natural hazards. In response to the theme of this year’s Global Platform, “Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow – Increase Investment in Local Action,” participants emphasized that not only local communities, but civil society, academia and the private sector must be involved in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action. Regional intergovernmental organizations are also playing a critical role in fostering regional disaster risk reduction cooperation to contribute to and enhance the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Along with the attending mayoral delegates, local governments are recommending an increased commitment to the Making Cities Resilient Campaign to enhance the capacities build resilience communities with sound risk reduction cultures. And at the local level, community practitioners are calling for multi-stakeholder partnerships to involve local communities and grassroots groups.

The Global Platform identified the direction we need to take and the critical steps we must take if we are to implement risk reduction strategies for the long term that will benefit communities today and into the future. Risk reduction has now evolved from idea and technical debate status to a concrete solution for global implementation.

Format of the Third Session of the Global Platform

The various events detailed in the Proceedings cover a wide-ranging array of topics and issues, focusing on the talents and efforts of Global Platform participants who shared their experiences and views as well as presented the ongoing challenges they face in the fulfilment of their risk reduction planning and mitigation efforts. Issues, resolutions, successes and challenges were captured daily and ultimately informed the resulting Chair's Summary, which helps to set the agenda for the way forward to the successful conclusion of the Hyogo Framework for Action and its successor framework beyond 2015.

The Proceedings reflect more summary of substance of the discussions at the Global Platform. For more detailed reporting, visit: <http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2011/> and for more on the World Reconstruction Conference, visit: <http://www.wrc-2011.org>

The 2011 Third Session of the Global Platform was the culmination of a consultative process flowing from regional meetings in the Pacific, Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe. The Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action and the General Assembly Thematic Debate also contributed to the documentation of the main theme and topics of the Global Platform. UNISDR facilitated the involvement of the private sector, parliamentarians, local governments and civil society organizations and practitioners in the preparations for the Global Platform.

Preparatory events were held 8-9 May 2011. An overall summary of the Regional Meetings, Inter-governmental Organization meetings and the National Platforms is included in the official proceedings. The following preparatory events were held:

Community Practitioners for Platform for Resilience

Media Training for Journalists and Media Focal Points for National Platforms

Science and Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction – ISDR Science and Technical Committee

Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPRENAC):
Disaster Risk Reduction Analysis in Central America: Context and Future Actions

Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction: Learning Event on Environment & Disaster Risk Reduction

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Meeting

Climate Change Negotiations Preparatory Meeting

African Group on Disaster Risk Reduction

Disaster Risk Reduction in the Arab Region: Progress and Challenges

Pacific Regional Group Orientation Meeting

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Meeting on Disaster Management

Media Training for Journalists

UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction Donor Group Meeting

Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA): Strategic Issues and Positions for Third Session of the Global Platform

European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction

International Consortium on Landslides

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Disaster Management Centre – Launch of South Asia Disaster Knowledge Network Portal

German National Platform (DKKV) and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies: Early Warning Preparatory Meeting

Global Facility Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) Consultative Group Meeting

Global Task Force on Building Codes

Heads of Inter-governmental Organizations and Regional Platforms

National Platform Meeting: Enhancing Disaster Risk Reduction through Better Governance

Preparatory Meeting for Mayors, Local Governments and Making Cities Resilient Campaign

Shelter Sector Preparatory Meeting

Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Health

Civil Society Preparatory Meeting

Parliamentary Preparatory Meeting

Plenary sessions heard leaders and opinion makers identify key challenges and solutions for reducing disaster risks. For the five plenary sessions, panellists were drawn from key leaders and actors in disaster reduction while moderators engaged panelists and participants to determine commitments and recommendations for action.

Official plenary statements afforded delegations an opportunity to provide three-minute official statements at allotted times in the plenary segments according to the official speakers list.

Informal plenary sessions were open segments to discuss common challenges related to the implementation of the outcomes of the Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework.

Roundtables were organized in cooperation with participating governments and organizations on issues of importance for the disaster risk reduction agenda.

Featured events highlighted a particular area of work in disaster risk reduction.

World Reconstruction Conference Thematic Sessions focused on specific sectoral and cross-cutting themes critical to effective reconstruction and recovery. During these sessions, participants investigated core challenges during reconstruction based on past and present experiences. The outcomes of the thematic sessions presented recommendations for the way forward. Visit <http://www.wrc-2011.org/wbwrc/> for more information.

Side events were short hour-long topics of interest organized by partners in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

Innovation Forum: An Innovation Forum displayed the over 71 entries received from the WRC Innovation Competition – New Approaches to Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction.

Box 1. IGNITE Stage

In 2011, the popular Ignite Stage provided opportunities for participants to showcase their achievements, challenges and innovative ideas to Market Place audiences throughout the day. Some 79 presentations, each no more than 15 minutes in duration, were made during the week on a rich and dramatic agenda that attracted favourable comments from delegates.

Presenters from around the globe, representing governments, academic and technical institutions, non-government organizations, international organizations and agencies, and the private sector shared success stories and provided encouragement to those engaged in disaster risk reduction.

For example, presentations from the Asian Disaster Risk Reduction Centre; the Finnish National Platform; the University of Bab Ezzouar in Algeria; the Sustainable Environment Ecological Development Society (SEEDS) and, Deloitte demonstrated the possibilities of making citizens safer before a natural hazard and after a disaster occurs. The Sasakawa Award winners also presented their winning projects on the Ignite Stage. For a complete list of Ignite Stage presenters, see Annex 1. For video of the presentations visit <http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2011/programme/ignitestage/>

The Global Platform Market Place was open daily and provided a dynamic and interactive venue that showcased projects, products, new ideas and approaches to disaster risk reduction. The Market Place featured 31 lively expositions from governments and organizations including:

Strengthening Climate Resilience Consortium	Central America and Caribbean
Syria	Save the Children – Drought Risk Reduction in Africa
Hungary	International Organization for Migration
Gender and Disaster Network	Asian Initiatives
Disaster Risk Reduction for Health	Germany
Food Security and Agriculture	Africa
Environment	Children and Disaster Risk Reduction
International Recovery Platform	UNDP and WMO
Kokusai Kogyo Holdings	Global Hand
Global Risk Forum	Switzerland
Indonesia	World Bank – Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
European Commission	Global Network of Civil Society Organizations
France	IFRC and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Japan	Making Cities Resilient
Global Design Village	Huairou Commission, GROOTS
Pacific Disaster Risk Management Partnership Network	

Schedule

Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Reconstruction Conference

SUNDAY 8 MAY	MONDAY 9 MAY	TUESDAY 10 MAY	WEDNESDAY 11 MAY
Registration 8.00 - 17.00 Market Place Set-up 9.00 - 17.00 Preparatory Meetings and Events 9.00 - 12.30 Lunch 12.30 - 14.00 Preparatory Meetings and Events 14.00 - 18.00	Registration 8.00 - 17.00 Market Place Set-up 9.00 - 17.00 Preparatory Meetings and Events 9.00 - 12.30 Lunch 12.30 - 14.00 Preparatory Meetings and Events 14.00 - 18.00	Registration 8.00 - 17.00 Market Place 8.00 - 18.30 Featured Event: Global Assessment Report Briefing Room 1 9.00 - 10.15 Featured Event: Dialogue with Parliamentarians and Mayors Room 1 10.30 - 12.30 Lunch 12.30 - 14.15 Opening Ceremony Room 1 14.30 - 15.15 Plenary: 'Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow: Increase Investment in Local Action' Room 1 15.15 - 16.30 Roundtable: Local Action Room 2 16.45 - 18.30 Roundtable: Wildland Fire Risk Room 3+4 16.45 - 18.30 WRC Thematic Sessions 16.45 - 18.30 Plenary Statements Room 1 16.45 - 18.30 Reception hosted by Switzerland 18.30 - 20.00 Restaurant	Market Place 8.00 - 18.30 World Reconstruction Conference: High-level Policy Panel: A Long Ignored Issue Roundtable: Public Investment Room 2 11.00 - 12.45 Lunch 12.45 - 14.00 Featured Event: Economics of Effective Prevention Briefing Room 1 13.15-14.45 The Economics of Effective Finance WRC Thematic Sessions 16.45 - 18.30 Informal Plenary: Implementing Outcomes of the Term-Plan Room 1 16.45 - 18.30 WRC Innovation Centre: New Approaches to Disaster Risk Reduction 18.30 - 20.00

Side Events at a Glance

Tuesday 10 May	Time	Room
Side Event: Hyogo Hardtalk – The Challenge of Local Partnerships for Disaster Risk Reduction	12.15 – 13.15	5
Side Event: Integrated Drought Risk Management	12.15 – 13.15	7+8
Side Event: Refining the Agenda? Disaster Risk Reduction in Times of Climate Change	12.15 – 13.15	18
Side Event: Risk Identification and the National Capacity to Manage Risk	13.15 – 14.15	C-CCV
Side Event: Partners for Resilience	13.15 – 14.15	B-CCV
Side Event: Saving Lives and Improved Coastal Risk Management through Regional Cooperation in Ocean and Marine Related Early Warning Systems in Asia	13.15 – 14.15	13
Side Event: How can Legislation Promote Disaster Risk Reduction at the Community Level?	13.15 – 14.15	A-CCV

Wednesday 11 May	Time	Room
Side Event: Views and Voices from the Frontline	12.45 – 13.45	A-CCV
Side Event: Science Meets Practice – How can Science Contribute to Risk Reduction, Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation?	12.45 – 13.45	B-CCV
Side Event: Securing our Common Future: An Integrated Approach to Resilience	12.45 – 13.45	13
Side Event: Engaging the Community – Volunteerism and Disaster Management	12.45 – 13.45	C-CCV
Side Event: Activating Africa's Adaptive Capacity – Climate Change Challenges and Lessons from the Africa Adaptation Programme	13.45 – 14.45	5
Side Event: Climate Services, Catastrophe Risk and Capital Markets – How Climate Services are Set to Become Embedded with Insurance Regulation	13.45 – 14.45	7+8
Side Event: Investing in Community Leadership for the Local Implementation of the Hyogo Framework of Action	13.45 – 14.45	6
Side Event: Success Stories in Inter-Agency Preparedness and the Way Forward	13.45 – 14.45	18

WEDNESDAY 11 MAY	THURSDAY 12 MAY	FRIDAY 13 MAY
<p>Construction Conference Responding to Natural Disasters: Addressing the Development Challenge Room 2 9.00 – 10.45</p> <p>Roundtable Disaster Sector Room 3+4 10.00 – 12.45</p> <p>WRC Thematic Sessions Room 1 11.00 – 12.45</p> <p>Plenary Statements Room 1 11.00 – 12.45</p> <p>Side Events Room 3+4 12.45 – 14.45</p> <p>Plenary Statements Room 1 12.45 – 14.45</p> <p>Plenary Statements Room 1 14.45 – 16.30</p> <p>Competition Presentations: Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction 0.00 Ignite Stage</p>	<p>Plenary Climate Change Adaptation Room 1 9.00 – 10.30</p> <p>Roundtable Managing Watersheds for Urban Resilience Room 3+4 10.45 – 12.15</p> <p>Roundtable Children for Resilience Room 2 10.45 – 12.15</p> <p>WRC Thematic Sessions Room 1 10.45 – 12.15</p> <p>Plenary Statements Room 1 10.45 – 12.15</p> <p>Lunch 12.30 – 14.30</p> <p>Featured Event: Climate Services for Managing Risk Room 2 13.00–14.30</p> <p>Side Events 12.30 – 13.30</p> <p>Side Events 13.30 – 14.30</p> <p>Roundtable Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender Sensitive Room 3+4 14.45 – 16.30</p> <p>Roundtable Safety Nets for Disaster Risk Reduction Room 2 14.45 – 16.30</p> <p>Roundtable Mountains of Risk Room A-CCV 14.45 – 16.30</p> <p>Plenary Statements Room 1 14.45 – 16.30</p> <p>Informal Plenary 2 Implementation of Outcomes of the HFA Mid-Term Review Room 2 16.45 – 18.30</p> <p>WRC Roundtable The Way Forward Room 3+4 16.45–18.30</p> <p>UN Sasakawa Award Ceremony 18.30 – 19.30 Room 3+4</p> <p>Reception 19.30 – 20.30 Restaurant</p>	<p>Joint Summary Outcomes Global Platform and WRC Room 1 9.00 – 11.30</p> <p>Closing Ceremony Room 1 11.30 – 12.30</p> <p>Side Event Next Steps on Chair's Summary 12.45 – 14.15 Room 2</p>

Thursday 12 May	Time	Room
Side Event: Risk governance – An Operative Framework for Integrated Action	12.30 – 13.30	A-CCV
Side Event: Global Task Force on Building Codes	12.30 – 13.30	3+4
Side Event: Looking ahead to 2020 - A Continuing Mission to Secure a Safer Tomorrow	12.30 – 13.30	B-CCV
Side Event: Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation at the Local Level	12.30 – 13.30	13
Side Event: Integrated Use of Space Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction	13.30 – 14.30	5
Side Event: Desa Tangguh – Resilient Villages in Indonesia	13.30 – 14.30	18
Side Event: Cities and Flooding in the 21st Century – Trends, Impacts and Policy Implications	13.30 – 14.30	7+8
Side Event: The European Union Approach on Disaster Risk Reduction	13.30 – 14.30	C-CCV

Proceedings

Preparatory Events

Regional Meetings

The theme of increased investment in local action at the Global Platform resonated strongly as it was developed largely from the discussions at various regional based disaster risk reduction technical and high level meetings. UNISDR produced *Aligning Regional and Global Disaster Risk Reduction: Summary of Key Regional Political Commitments and Disaster Risk Reduction Priorities* as a single reference document on the outcomes of regional meetings. During the preparatory event, delegations made the following suggestions:

- Integrate societal changes in the design of early warning systems.
- Increase public investment in disaster risk reduction.
- Empower communities to be part of disaster risk reduction, scaling up community involvement and tap into local knowledge to help lead risk reduction efforts.
- Determine options for innovative financing modalities, integrated approaches, cooperation and building capacity at national and regional levels.
- Create a strong and autonomous international system for disaster risk reduction.
- Make knowledge accessible and avoid duplication of research and information.

Inter-governmental Organizations and Regional Platforms

At the meeting of Heads of Inter-governmental Organizations (IGOs) and Regional Platforms, delegates from the five United Nations regions, including regional and sub-regional IGOs and national government representatives, cited recent extreme and catastrophic events and the need for more and urgent attention for disaster risk reduction considerations to be incorporated into the development planning process. They further recognized the increasing vulnerability and need to build resilience of Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries together with the recent disasters in some of the Group of Twenty (G20) countries. The following suggestions emerged:

- Encourage that the upcoming Rio+20 global meeting and the second five years of the Hyogo Framework of Action be used to promote the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in supporting development.
- Recognize the need for the strengthening of and provision of adequate resources to the UNISDR secretariat to lead the process and to effectively support the growing uptake for disaster risk reduction services at all levels.
- Continue to refine the Global Platform process to include outcomes of Regional Platforms and meetings.
- Strengthen and support IGOs' role to implement recommendations arising from Global and Regional Platforms.
- Promote risk management and set common standards and indicators in support of measuring progress in disaster risk reduction.
- Foster cross-regional cooperation through the development of a global network of IGOs under UNISDR coordination.



National Platforms

The theme of the National Platform preparatory meeting, “Enhancing Disaster Reduction through Better Governance”, examined existing national institutions charged with disaster risk reduction responsibilities and implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action. Overall, National Platforms helped to develop a culture of prevention, provided knowledge and information on disaster risk reduction, and were a solid base for engaging with the public and youth. A number of improvements to governance and institutional arrangements for National Platforms were suggested, including:

- Encourage multi-stakeholder input and participation.
- Support decentralization noting the need for local government participation.
- Measure progress and impacts in disaster risk reduction through identifying targets, indicators, outcomes in work plans.
- Strengthen the legal base of disaster risk reduction, through policy, legislation, and protocols to assist in implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action.
- Continue to link climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

Official Opening of the Third Session



United Nations Secretary-General **H.E. Mr. BAN Ki-moon** delivered the opening and keynote address (see Opening Statement).



H.E. Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia, via a video message (see Box 2 on Global Champion for Disaster Risk Reduction).



Ms. Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Managing Director of the World Bank, noted the need for a framework for post-disaster recovery, improving access to financing and integrating risk mitigation and climate change adaptation (see Opening Statement).



Mr. Peter Maurer, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Swiss Confederation, welcomed delegates to Switzerland as host country of the Global Platform. He highlighted Switzerland's ongoing support for disaster risk reduction.



H.E. Dr. Gjorge Ivanov, President of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, noted the value of a coordinated approach to disaster risk reduction and highlighted the South-East European Summit initiative to strengthen regional cooperation.



H.E. Dr. Ajaratou Isatou-Nije Saidy, Vice President, Minister of Women's Affairs and Chairperson, Disaster Management Governing Council of the Gambia, called for building capacity and resilience of local communities to enhance ownership and sustainability.



Mr. Shozo Azuma, Senior Vice Minister for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, provided an overview of the consequences of the earthquakes and tsunami and noted his country's intention to host a conference in 2012 to share experiences and lessons.



Box 2. HE. Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono – President of the Republic of Indonesia

United Nations Secretary-General BAN Ki-moon was delighted to recognize H.E Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of Indonesia, as a “Global Champion for Disaster Risk Reduction” at the opening ceremony of the 2011 Global Platform for Disaster Reduction.

The President delivered his thanks via video message to the participants noting that collectively, we need to instill a culture of safety nationwide. He said that governments cannot do this alone and the community must be engaged. The President added that a key to success was the inclusion of disaster risk reduction into core planning.

In recognition of his achievements, Margareta Wahlström, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, presented a letter of commendation to the President, received by his Envoy to the Global Platform, Mr. Syamsul Maarif, Chief of the Indonesian National Disaster Management Agency.

In the letter, the President was commended for his efforts to make disaster risk reduction an integral part of development in Indonesia and his role in instilling a culture of safety underpinned by strong community engagement.

Official Plenary Statements

Official plenary statements were delivered by 94 governments during the Third Session of the Global Platform. An additional 41 statements from international organizations, inter-government organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), parliamentarians, private sector, local governments and academic institutions were also heard. All statements are available on the website <http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2011/programme/statements/>

Plenary statements were rich in content. Governments outlined the impacts of disasters on their people and economies and the increasing need to build resilience through reducing disaster risk. Many outlined progress towards implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action, especially legislative and institutional support. Governments noted many of their achievements that contribute to building resilience domestically and internationally. Regional cooperation was identified as a main priority in many statements.

Governments recognized the benefits of integrating disaster risk reduction into national plans and sector ministries. Many pointed to future challenges in disaster risk reduction including the increased economic costs of risk due to rapid urbanization. Several referred to the need to further strengthen support given to action at the local level. The need to harmonize disaster risk reduction with climate change adaptation was also well-reflected in government statements.

Statements from other parties and stakeholders focused on the convergence of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. International organizations reported on a range of risk reduction efforts and building capacity in health, ecosystems, education, migration and land use planning. NGOs reported on increased involvement in disaster risk reduction and identified community-based disaster risk reduction as key to success in building resilience. NGOs also flagged the need to empower the local level and target the poor and disadvantaged communities.

The Plenary Sessions

Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow – Increased Investment in Local Action

Moderated by

Ms. Zeinab Badawi, International BBC Journalist and Broadcaster

Panellists

H.E. Mr. BAN Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations
 Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations (Chair)
 Mr. Luo Pingfei, Vice Minister, Ministry of Civil Affairs, China
 Mr. Abdou Sane, Member of Parliament, National Assembly, Senegal
 Mr. John Carter, Member of Parliament, Minister for Civil Defence, New Zealand
 Mr. Marcelo Luis Ebrard Casaubón, Mayor of Mexico City, Mexico
 Ms. Sandra Wu, President and CEO, Kokusai Kogyo, Japan
 Mr. Robert Glasser, Secretary General, CARE International
 Mr. Lawrence Temfwe, Executive Director, Jubilee Centre, Zambia
 Ms. Prema Gopalan, Executive Director, Swayam Shikshan Prayog

The plenary session introduced the overarching theme of the Third Session of the Global Platform. Risk is most effectively reduced at the local level. United Nations Secretary-General BAN Ki-moon outlined important steps in disaster risk reduction, such as conducting risk assessments of critical infrastructure (such as hospitals and schools); raising awareness; and developing broader coalitions of action that include local government and communities. The panellists described the strengths and weaknesses of mechanisms designed to ensure that local authorities are better resourced financially and technically. The conclusions included:

- Promote education and preparation of individuals.
- Tailor risk reduction mechanisms and activities to local needs.
- Coordinate public awareness campaigns between central and local government.
- Acknowledge the potential role of the private sector and leverage their expertise.

“Local communities have the capacity to handle risks and build resilience.”

Ms. Prema Gopalan, Executive Director Swayam Shikshan Prayog

The Economics of Disaster – Effective Financial Instruments to Reduce Risk

Moderated by

Ms. Raghida Dergham, Senior Diplomatic Analyst, Al Hayat News

Panellists

Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations (Chair)

Hon. Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri Abdul Aziz, Cabinet Minister, Malaysia

Ms. Kristalina Georgieva, European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid & Crisis Response

Mr. Woochong Um, Deputy Director, Asian Development Bank

Mr. Oscar Ortiz, Mayor of Santa Tecla, El Salvador

Mr. Nirankar Saxena, Director, Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Investment in disaster risk reduction pays dividends but it requires adequate public and private investment. The impact of past disasters is often quickly forgotten and there were many fragmented interests. There is scope for much greater private and public investment in disaster risk reduction. Indeed, private sector resources can be captured to help address the enormous gap in funding for disaster risk reduction. Strong public support for humanitarian aid response could also be harnessed and be redirected in support of much greater investment in disaster risk reduction. The following priorities emerged from the discussions:

- Accelerate efforts to mainstream disaster risk reduction into international community, national and local government, community and private sector development initiatives.
- New financing mechanisms to channel greater resources into disaster risk reduction, in particular ensuring far greater local government and community access to this funding.
- Encourage private sector investment in disaster risk reduction needs via the creation of enabling environments (e.g. tax incentives) and awareness of potential commercial gain.
- Engage with finance and development planning ministries on the long-term benefits of disaster risk reduction, on benefits of individual investments and the wider socio-economic impacts of disasters.
- Share examples of successful public and private disaster risk reduction initiatives.

Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Alliances for Resilience

Moderated by

Ms. Raghida Dergham, Senior Diplomatic Analyst, Al Hayat News Agency

Panellists

Mr. Jan Egeland, Director, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Norway (Chair)

Ms. Socorro Flores Liera, Minister and Special Advisor for Climate Change, Mexico

Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Parliamentarian, Bangladesh

Mr. Mamadou M. Traore, Secretary General, Mali Red Cross

Mr. Marcelo Luis Ebrard, Mayor of Mexico City, Mexico

Mr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization

Dr. Jack Dangermond, Founder, Environmental Research Institute, United States of America

The latest round of negotiations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Cancun established clear commitments on financing and implementing climate change adaptation. Much needs to be done to strengthen the alliance between climate change and disaster risk reduction because no country is immune to disasters. As progress has been made and with better integration of information and plans, more lives can be saved.

There are enormous challenges in responding to climate change. A lot of knowledge about climate change adaptation is not reaching those who need it the most (for example, as many as 70 countries do not have the capacity to understand and implement information on climate change adaptation). At the same time, there are many projects, each requiring a separate regime taking up institutional and financial resources, which are trying to achieve the same thing. Panel members emphasized:

- The fundamental need for joint approaches and partnerships.
- Natural disasters and climate change are part of a complex system and the subsequent actions to be taken cannot be simply limited to one or two issues.
- The gap between knowledge and needs must be filled in many disciplines and therefore research efforts should be strengthened.
- Prevention of disasters is one of the four priorities raised in the Global Framework of Climate Services.

World Reconstruction Conference High Level Policy Panel: Responding to Natural Disasters – A Long Ignored Development Challenge?

Moderated by

Mr. Tim Sebastian, Chairman of the Doha Debates

Panellists

Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations (Chair of Global Platform)

Ms. Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Managing Director, World Bank and Former Finance Minister of Indonesia

Ms. Kristalina Georgieva, European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid & Crisis Response

Mr. Ludger Arnoldussen, Member of Board, Munich Re

Mr. Mitiku Kassa, State Minister for Disaster Management Sector, Ministry Agriculture & Rural Development, Ethiopia

Lt. General Nadeem Ahmad, Former Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority, Pakistan

Mr. Marcus Oxley, Chairman, Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction, United Kingdom

Major public interventions for reconstruction and recovery often follow after disasters, diverting scarce resources originally intended for development programmes. It is vital therefore, to rebuild and recover in a manner that is sustainable, contributing towards the development agendas and programmes of disaster-affected countries. When there is a lack of institutional capacity, coherent planning and coordination among stakeholders, the chance for development is lost, funds are wasted, and the affected population is left additionally burdened.

The World Reconstruction Conference High-Level Policy Panel addressed pressing issues of disaster recovery and reconstruction. The Panel comprised of a prominent group of policy makers from government, multilateral and bilateral organizations, and civil society to discuss issues such as: i) have we learned the lessons of the past? ii) how to ensure communities receive commitments and promises; and, iii) prevention pays...but why are we not investing?

In this light, a number of conclusions were drawn

- *There is a need to address the underlying causes/drivers of risk:* The occurrence of a natural disaster provides a unique window of opportunity to break from the past and to “build back better”. However, the real opportunity to build back better resides in addressing the underlying causes/drivers of risk. In this context, it can be recommended to conduct a post mortem examination/critical learning review.
- *The policy needs to be connected with the people:* In order to fix the gap between policies and the realities on the ground, the priorities, needs and concerns of the primary stakeholders of the post disaster reconstruction process need to be included in the policy discourse. Participation/inclusion and accountability are required to translate policy into practice.
- *The importance of institutions:* We need to create/support strong government institutions which can take the lead on the disaster agenda, both ex-ante and post disaster. In the case of post-disaster reconstruction, strong institutional arrangements need to be in place to coordinate the reconstruction efforts of stakeholders on different levels.
- *Reconstruction needs to be recognised as a long-term process:* National governments need to organize for a long-term reconstruction. In addition, donors need to organize to provide predictable funding for a long period. The funding needs to come with strong accountability mechanisms to ensure progress. The Panel concluded that there is a need to establish a new framework which guides long-term sustainable recovery programs.

“Disaster preparedness is an integral part of the development agenda.”

Toni Frisch, Head, Humanitarian Aid Department, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Joint Summary Outcomes and Closing Ceremony of the Global Platform and World Reconstruction Conference

Panellists

Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Reduction (Co-Chair)
Ms. Zoubida Allaoua, Director Finance, Economics and Urban Development Department, World Bank (Co-Chair)
Ms. Janet Edwards, Swedish National Platform and Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency
Ms. Saumura Tiouloung, International Parliamentarian Union Second Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade, Cambodia
Mr. David Cadman, President of ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability
Dr. Kim HakSu, Senior Advisor National Emergency Management Agency, Korea
Ms. Vishaka Hidellage, Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction
Ms. Josephine Castillo, DAMPA in the Philippines
Dr. Guiteau Jean-Pierre, Haiti Red Cross Society
Mr. Aris Papadopoulos CEO, Titan America

Ms. Lily Caravantes, Presidential Secretary for Food Safety and Nutrition, Guatemala
 Prof. Virginia Murray, Head of Extreme Events and Health Protection Centre for Radiation, Chemicals and Environmental Hazards, London
 Andre, Representative of Children

Representatives from governments, private sector, academia, mayors, parliamentarians, NGOs and civil society shared their views on the priorities of the Third Session of the Global Platform and discussed how to increase commitment and resources to disaster risk reduction.

Just a few years ago, many states were still learning about risk reduction and how to cope with the onset of a disaster. Today, National and Regional Platforms are providing forums for collaborative approaches to risk reduction around the globe and governments are taking concrete steps, through policy and planning, to prepare for, and respond to risks. Mayors and local governments are committing to the ISDR Making Cities Resilient Campaign to enhance the capabilities of local government to build resilience. At the local level, community practitioners are calling for partnerships to involve local communities and grassroots groups.

Speakers at the Joint Summary Outcomes Session recognized that strong community involvement and engagement were crucial for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in order to increase the resilience of the country. Disaster risk reduction should be decentralized and local governance reinforced. Not just governments but local communities, civil society, academia and the private sector must be involved in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Several delegations in the Joint Outcomes Session also expressed their commitment to, future action in support of, and reflection on the sessions of the Global Platform and World Reconstruction Conference. The Chair's Summary would reflect the converging views on the critical steps for the disaster risk reduction community.

The Informal Plenary Sessions - Implementation of the Outcomes of the Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action

Moderated by

Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Reduction (Co-Chair)
 Mr. Kenzo Oshima, Senior Vice President of Japan International Cooperation Agency (Co-Chair)

The two informal plenary sessions during the Global Platform afforded delegates the opportunity to identify immediate paths for action relating to the Mid-Term Review recommendations. At the same time, early thinking and planning was achieved about a successor to the Hyogo Framework for Action after it expires in 2015.

The discussions focused on implementation of the outcomes of the Mid-Term Review, specifically those related to: local, national and regional level implementation; community focus; and cross-cutting issues, including gender. A key message was to scale up disaster risk reduction efforts particular in the face of increased impacts of climate change. We also need to use science and research more practically. National and Regional Platforms were regarded as viable instruments for the coordination of disaster risk reduction efforts. The following priorities emerged from the discussion:

- Follow up systematically on the recommendations of the Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action.
- Set baselines and targets to ensure the accurate monitoring of progress and to provide adequate support for decision-making and action.
- Move beyond involving only national disaster management agencies in disaster risk reduction efforts.
- Improve the governance of disaster risk reduction at all levels.
- Establish an inter-Platform mechanism to help with implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and follow up on the Chair's Summary.

Box 3. The Hyogo Framework for Action

The Hyogo Framework for Action: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters: 2005-2015, was adopted by 168 governments at the World Conference for Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan in January 2005. The Hyogo Framework for Action seeks a substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets. It sets three strategic goals and identifies five priorities and implementation plans (see <http://unisdr.org/eng/hfa/hfa.htm>).

The outcomes of the Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action were a key consideration during many deliberations throughout the Global Platform as well as during the informal plenary sessions. At the Third Session of the Global Platform, Japan offered to host the next World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015 as the venue to consider the replacement of the Hyogo Framework for Action.



The Roundtables

Preparedness

Panellists

Dr. David Nabarro, Senior United Nations System Coordinator for Avian and Human Influenza (Chair)
 Mr. Vicente Nuñez, National Emergency Office, Chile
 Dr. Geoffrey Love, Director, Weather and Disaster Risk Reduction Services Department, WMO
 Ms. Christine Marin, Member of French Parliament, Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
 Dr. Bruce Aylward, Assistant Director-General for Polio, Emergencies and Country Cooperation, WHO
 Mr. Rashid Khalikov, Director, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Geneva
 Dr. Ronald Waldman, Team Leader, Humanitarian Preparedness and Response, Influenza and Other Emerging Threats Unit, USAID

Reflecting on recent health related epidemics, panellists outlined how best to support national and local capacity building for preparedness with systematic and predictable methodology to build those capacities. They pointed to the challenges of financing and coordinating preparedness efforts, which now had to address multiple hazards. A whole of society approach to preparedness was suggested. People must be prepared for disasters today and all stakeholders should be included in preparedness activities and planning. Panellists suggested the following:

- Establish networks as well as knowledge and information sharing across all sectors to ensure that disaster risk management agencies and health agencies work together and share responsibility.
- Provide systematic management of preparedness at all levels.
- Undertake simulation exercises that test the responsiveness to emergency situations.

Strengthening National and International Preparedness for Nuclear and Technological Emergencies

Panellists

H.E. Mr. BAN Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations
 Mr. Rashid Khalikov, Director, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Geneva (Chair)
 Mr. Yuri Brazhnikov, Director of the International Cooperation Department, Head of Russian National Emergency Response Corps, Ministry for Civil Defence, Emergencies & Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters, Russian Federation
 Mr. Kenichi Suganuma, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan and Chief Consulate, Geneva
 Mr. Laurent Michel, Director General for Disaster Prevention, France
 Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Reduction
 Ms. Elena Buglova, Acting Centre Head, Incident and Emergency Centre, International Atomic Energy Association
 Mr. Tibor Tóth, Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission, Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization
 Ms. Elena Manaenkova, Assistant Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization
 Dr. Maria Neira, Director, Public Health and Environment, World Health Organization



The United Nations Secretary-General explained that nuclear reactors and other industrial facilities should withstand multiple hazards in what he called “the new nexus between natural disasters and nuclear safety.” He referred to a five-point strategy on nuclear safety that would balance the benefits of nuclear energy with the need for safety of the world’s population. Panellists added that efforts to reduce risk from technological disasters needed to be complimentary and mutually supportive. There was a strong call to improve public safety and start more urgent preparations for technological and nuclear emergencies. Panellists made the following suggestions:

- Work together to reduce the risks associated with nuclear emergencies in order to reduce their impact on lives and livelihoods.
- Engage in multi-hazard risk assessments, strengthening safeguards, exchanging information, expertise and equipment.
- Connect early warning systems to inform and prepare communities.

Ensuring a Return on Investment in Local Action

Panellists

Mr. Andrew Bidnell, Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (Moderator)

Mr. David Cadman, President of ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability

Mr. Abdou Sane, Member of Parliament, National Assembly, Senegal

Ms. Haydee Rodriguez, President of the Union of Cooperatives of Las Brumas, Nicaragua

Mr. Philip Verges, Founder, Small Equity Initiative

Ms. Yoka Brandt, Director-General for Development Cooperation, Netherlands

Mr. Marcus Oxley, Chairman, Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction, United Kingdom

The panel discussion focused on translating policy into practice and the need for a “push down” from the supply side and a “build up” of demand from the local level. To accelerate progress at the local level, there needed to be local participatory risk assessments as well as a set of specific and identifiable targets. A good return on investment today requires good public-private partnerships. When the interests of the national and local levels coincided, the barriers between the public and private sectors could be broken and common goals reached. Panellists suggested that a return on investment in local action requires a commitment to:

- Work together in a genuine partnership under a common cause to reduce disaster risks and increase sustainable development.
- Invest in the action of the local communities.
- Provide information on what resources are at the disposal of local communities.

“I call on the global community to renew its commitments to address disaster risk reduction.”

George Zedginidze, Deputy Minister of Environment Protection, Georgia

Addressing Wild Land Fire Risk

Panellists

Ms. Paola Deda, Chief, Forestry and Timber Section, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (Chair)
 Mr. Alexander Chupriyan, Deputy Minister for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Natural Disasters, Russian Federation
 Ms. Pilar Gallego, Director General on Civil Protection and Emergencies, Spain
 Mr. Phil Cottle, Managing Director, ForestRe Ltd, United Kingdom
 Ms. Kholiwe Luvuno, Working on Fire, South Africa
 Mr. Sundar Prasad Sharma, Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention, Nepal
 Mr. Bambang Hero Saharjo, Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia

The risk of wild land forest fires severely impacts the economics of affected areas. Climate change contributes to such fires, but effective early warning systems can reduce the impact of fire risks. Risk mapping was essential for protecting critical assets such as thermal and nuclear facilities and to manage communities' exposure to wild land fire risks. Drawing on local communities as resources was just one preventative measure identified that can influence the outcome of a wild land fire. An integrated emergency management approach can reduce the exposure to, and impact on governments, businesses and communities. Panellists noted that while much progress had been made in the last 20 years, further cooperation was needed to address the risk of these fires, which included:

- Combine early warning systems with comprehensive preventative measures.
- Further the transfer of knowledge to address the impact of wild land fires.
- Increase cooperation between countries to reduce the impacts of wild land fires.

Public Investment – Where Disaster Risk Reduction Really Makes a Difference

Panellists

Mr. Ivan Morales, Executive Secretary, Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (Chair)
 Mr. Manuel Dengo, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva
 Mr. Luis Miguel Castilla Rubio, Vice Minister for Finance, Peru
 Mr. Manuk Mkrtchyan, Deputy Minister for Education, Armenia
 Dr. Senendra Upreti, Chief of the Curative Division, Ministry for Health, Nepal
 Mr. Salim Al-Moghrabi, Commissioner for Environment & Sustainable Development, Aqaba Special Economic Zone, Jordan
 Mr. Ivo Menzinger, Managing Director, Swiss Re, Switzerland

The panel discussed the benefits that can be derived by integrating disaster risk reduction investment into national budgets as well as critical infrastructure. The health and education sectors have demonstrated the benefits of such integration along with awareness raising and capacity building processes. The starting point for disaster risk reduction within a public investment scheme was best determined by the knowledge of the risk. Based on sound multi-hazard assessments; reliable methodologies; and, social, economic, and environmental impacts, States could determine feasible interventions in development processes. The panellists suggested:

- Invest in disaster risk reduction to contribute to the sustainability of development.
- Create disaster funds, contingent loans, insurance and reinsurance systems, and other financial market instruments in order to protect financially the health and education sectors as well as critical infrastructure from disasters.
- Include strong accountability measures in finance mechanisms and public investment.



Engaging the Private Sector

“Ensuring a safer and more sustainable future requires coordinated action by multiple actors worldwide through partnerships at multiple levels in politics, technology, economy, civic/community groups and the public that combine resources and expertise.”

Roundtable on Engaging the Private Sector

Panellists

Mr. Rowan Douglas, CEO, Global Analytics and Chairman of the Willis Re/Willis Research Network (Chair)
 Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Reduction
 Mr. Philip Verges, Founder, Small Equity Initiative
 Mr. Peter Williams, Distinguished Engineer and Chief Technology Officer, USA IBM
 Ms. Sandra Wu, President and Chief Executive Officer, Kokusai Kogyo
 Mr. Dale Sands, Senior Vice President and Global Practices Director Environment, AECOM
 Mr. Peter Gruetter, Distinguished Fellow, CISCO Internet Business Solutions Group
 Mr. John Tobin-de la Puente, Managing Director of Public Policy-Sustainability Affairs, Credit Suisse
 Mr. Juan-Gabriel Aguiriano, Worldwide Managing Director of Sustainable Operations, DuPont Sustainable Solutions
 Mr. Jan P. Mumenthaler, Head Insurance Services Group, Business Risk Department, International Finance Corporation
 Mr. Thomas R. Loster, Chairman, MunichRe Foundation

Mr. Aris Papadopoulos, CEO, Titan America

Mr. Maxime Chretien, Associate Partner, Forensic & Dispute Services, Deloitte S.A.

Mr. Jesus S. Domingo, Minister in charge of Disarmament and Humanitarian Affairs, Permanent Mission of the Philippines

Mr. José Luis Barbier, Deputy Minister for Provincial Relations, Civil Protection Division, Ministry of Interior, Argentina

Mr. Régis Thepot, Director General, Grands Lacs de Seine, France

Panellists discussed the economic case for forging public-private partnerships to reduce disaster risk and building resilience at the local and community levels. The economic losses from disasters were enormous as experienced in recent disasters such as the earthquakes in Japan and New Zealand, landslides in Brazil and floods in Australia. While the primary responsibility for protecting communities remained with governments, the private sector nonetheless played a crucial role in managing disaster risks and building resilience. Panellists committed to create awareness in private sector organizations to make disaster risk reduction and resilience-building an integrated part of their sustainable development strategy, goals and programmes. The panellists suggested the following actions:

- Private sector organizations to join the “Call for Action: Five Essentials for Business in Disaster Risk Reduction” (see Box 4)
- Identify vulnerabilities and their root causes that are in areas of activity and influence of the private sector.
- Invest in resilience measures that the private sector can link in with.
- Apply risk reduction and management principles in business, sectors, supply chains, client bases and global networks.

Box 4. Call for Action - Five Essentials for Business in Disaster Risk Reduction

Heeding the United Nations Secretary-General’s call to action, the Private Sector Advisory Group for Disaster Prevention, Resilience and Risk Reduction invited all private sector entities to join in signing the Statement: Five Essential for Business in Disaster Risk Reduction (see Annex 2). The five essentials include:

1. Promote and develop public-private partnerships
2. Leverage sectoral private sector expertise and strengths
3. Foster a collaborative exchange and dissemination of data
4. Support national and local risk assessments
5. Support the development and strengthening of national and local laws, regulations, policies and programmes

Under the guidance of UNISDR, the Private Sector Advisory Group will bring together a wide range of private sector entities into a global partnership for action that will encompass private businesses large and small, regional and local business trade organizations, as well as government-owned business enterprises.

Managing Watersheds for Urban Resilience

Panellists

Ms. Siththy Marina Mohamed, Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management, Sri Lanka (Chair)
Ms. Shraddha Shridhar Jadhav, Mayor of Mumbai, India
Mr. Mark Smith, Director, Water Programme, IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature
Mr. Jean-Claude Eude, Director General, Loire River Basin Authority, France
Mr. Aisea Tuidraki, Special Administrator, Nadi, Sigatoka Town Councils, Fiji
Ms. Marcelo Rivera Arancibia, Mayor of Hualpén, Region of Bío-Bío, Chile
Mr. Mahesh Narvekar, Chief Officer, Disaster Management Unit, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai

Urban areas depend on watersheds yet urban expansion and land use changes have contributed to watershed degradation and in the process increased urban risk to water-related hazards. Panellists noted that watershed management was characterized by the need to balance water source needs amongst multiple users. There was also a need to continuously adapt to changing risks which combined ecosystems with infrastructure. Self-organization and community involvement in watershed management required more support. The panel concluded with the following priorities:

- Support policy and legal frameworks to implement sustainable watershed management for urban resilience.
- Integrate watershed management into urban planning and risk management.
- Practice watershed risk management across political and institutional boundaries.
- Foster public-private partnerships and establish a mechanism for ecosystem services.

Children for Resilience

“I felt unhappy when I saw the school destroyed by the storm. It happened at night and in the morning my friend and I went to school and found it had been destroyed.”

a child from Laos

Panellists

Ms. Sian Gardner (Facilitator)
Dr. P. G. Dhar Chakrabarti, Director, SAARC Disaster Management Centre, India
Mr. Alan March, Humanitarian Coordinator, Assistant Director General, AusAID, Australia

Children

Nisha, India
Ramashis, India
Tricia, Philippines
Andre, Philippines
Johnson, Kenya

Children and young people from communities impacted by climate change and disasters joined three senior policy makers on the panel in order to share their powerful messages on the role that young people played in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. The discussion highlighted that children represent 50 to 60 percent of people affected by disasters. With examples from Kenya and the Philippines, the children demonstrated they have an important role to play as communicators and analyzers of risks and constructors of social networks.

A key outcome was the launch of a 'Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction', identified through consultations with children in over 20 countries, aimed at national authorities, donors and other agencies outlining five priorities for implementing child-centred disaster risk reduction (see Annex 3). In terms of future priorities, the Panellists highlighted:

- Listen to children's voices; they are the investment in a safer future.
- Embed the principle of protection of children in disaster risk reduction policies and programmes.
- Make more schools and learning spaces safe.

Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender Sensitive

Panellists

Ms. Lorena Aguilar, Global Senior Gender Adviser, IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature (Chair)
 Ms. Lily Caravantes, Presidential Secretary for Food Safety and Nutrition, Guatemala
 Dr. P. G. Dhar Chakrabarti, Director, SAARC Disaster Management Centre, India
 Ms. Laura Gurza Jaidar, General Coordinator for Civil Protection, Ministry of Interior, Mexico
 Ms. Polotu Fakafanua Paunga, Deputy Director, Women's Affairs, Ministry of Education, Women's Affairs and Culture, Tonga
 Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative Secretary-General for Disaster Reduction
 Ms. Saumura Tioulong, International Parliamentarian Union Second Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade, Cambodia

The panel discussed the pressing issues on gender-sensitive disaster risk. Women were leaders and catalysts of change and solutions, and not merely a vulnerable group or passive victims of disasters. Efforts must be enhanced and sustained in mainstreaming gender and disaster risk reduction into development that calls for building alliances and partnerships that transcend political affiliations. Integrating a gender perspective into disaster risk reduction also increase efficiency and effectiveness in building resilience. Government accountability in mainstreaming gender perspective could be addressed by parliamentarians and civil societies with progress linked to monitoring of implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action implementation. Panellists suggested the following actions:

- Accelerate Hyogo Framework for Action implementation, particularly in mainstreaming of gender and disaster risk reduction into development processes.
- Consider women as leaders and catalysts of change.
- Collect and assess information and knowledge on gender and disaster risk reduction to support decision making.
- Develop public policy and accountability mechanisms that ensure gender and disaster risk reduction consideration.
- Maintain gender as a major agenda in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Safety Nets for Disaster Risk Reduction

Panellists

Mr. Alfredo Lazarte, Director, Crisis Response, Prevention and Recovery, International Labour Organization (Chair)
 Mr. Ato Mitiku Kassa, State Minister for Disaster Management and Food Security Sector Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ethiopia
 Mr. Milton Rondo Filho, Minister, General Coordination of Fight Against Hunger, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brazil
 Dr. Aslam Alam, Deputy Minister and Secretary in Charge of Disaster Management and Relief, Bangladesh

Mr. Ruben Hofliger Topete, Director-General of Natural Disasters' Fund, Mexico
Ms. Relinda Sosa, President, National Confederation of Women Organised for Life and Integrated Development, Peru
Mr. Carlos Scaramella, Coordinator, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, World Food Programme

Social protection systems offered a potentially useful mechanism to reduce the impact of disasters on the most vulnerable populations who have a right to safe communities. Panellists shared their experiences with existing safety nets in a variety of countries that included disaster risk reduction efforts to assist the poor in managing risk. The discussion explored ways to integrate social protection mechanisms into disaster and climate risk management, and poverty reduction. The conclusion was that existing social protection systems could be both cost-effective and a powerful tool for reducing vulnerability. The panellists highlighted:

- Prioritize connecting social protection to disaster risk and climate change adaptation.
- Undertake independent evaluations of social protection systems to determine best practice for reducing impact of disasters.
- Encourage community and civil society participation for effective targeting.

Mountains of Risk

Panellists

Mr. Andreas Schild, Director General, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Nepal (Chair)
Mr. Minjur Dorji, Honorable Minister of Home and Cultural Affairs, Bhutan
Ms. María del Pilar Cornejo, Minister, National Secretariat for Risk Management, Ecuador
Mr. Vicente Nuñez, National Emergency Office, Chile
Mr. Thomas Probst Scientific Advisor, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland

Panellists noted that the risks from glacier lake outburst floods have increased, especially in the Hindukush-Karakorum-Himalaya region. Mountain goods and ecosystem services played a key role for lowland and urban populations and industries. Climate change affected mountain ecosystems through changes in glacier water discharge and extreme events. Panellists identified the need for cross-border cooperation and the inclusion of traditional knowledge to address these risks.

- Increase disaster risk information on high altitude areas.
- Improve cross-border cooperation and the exchange of information and best practices for example, through PLANALP.
- Include sustainable mountains as part of a multi-hazard approach to disaster risk reduction.

World Reconstruction Conference Roundtable: Strengthening Local Recovery – The Key to Building Back Better

Panellists

Mr. David Taylor, Executive Advisor, Collaboration and Innovation, World Vision International (Chair)
Mr. Roger Morier, Communications Advisor, World Bank (Moderator)
Ms. Zoubida Allaoua, Director, Finance, Economics and Urban Development Department, World Bank
Mr. Shozo Azuma, Senior Vice Minister for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Japan
Mr. Syamsul Maarif, Chief of National Agency for Disaster Management, Indonesia
Mr. Robert Glasser, Secretary General, CARE International
Mr. Abdul Shakoor Sindhu, Principal Coordinator, Rural Development Policy Institute, Pakistan
Mr. Guiteau Jean-Pierre, Executive Director, Haitian National Red Cross Society

Ms. Aimee Ansari, Humanitarian Policy Representative, Oxfam International

Mr. Richard Rumsey, Director, Disaster Risk Reduction, World Vision International

Mr. Mario Flores, Director, Disaster Response Field Operations, Habitat for Humanity International

The panel addressed some of the complex issues surrounding the coordination, planning and quality implementation of post-disaster reconstruction and recovery interventions at the local level and the challenge of balancing with national and global efforts. There was a much higher profile for, and expanding roles of local governments, civil society and the private sector in recovery. Civil society organizations required more encouragement to engage with these entities. A more open and accessible environment and political commitment was needed for community engagement. Panellists agreed on the need to:

- Engage local communities in preparedness, recovery and reconstruction.
- Recognize that community ownership sustains the building back better and safer strategy.
- Provide a framework of support based on needs assessment that identifies the work to be done to reduce the gap between planning and implementation.

World Reconstruction Conference Roundtable: Rebuilding and Protecting Critical Infrastructure - Lessons from Japan and Other Countries

Panellists

Mr. Richard Andrews, Former Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, State of California, United States of America (Chair)

Mr. Kenichi Suganuma, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative, Chief of Consulate of Japan in Geneva

Mr. Hirokazu Tatano, Professor, Integrated Management for Disaster Risk, Kyoto University, Japan

Mr. Charles Scawthorn, Professor (Ret.), Kyoto University, President, SPA Risk

Mr. Murat Bursa, CEO, Zorlu Energy Group, Turkey

Mr. Pablo Allard, National Reconstruction Program Coordinator, Ministry of Housing and Urbanization, Chile

Mr. Otto Kocsis, Head of Business Resilience Practice, Zurich Risk Engineering, Zurich Insurance Company Ltd.





The discussion focused on experiences related to the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami and highlighted the challenges arising from the effects on critical infrastructure. The panel considered how a risk assessment for complex systems could be done. There was opportunity now for integrating risk reduction into the rebuilding of critical facilities. Specifically, the panellists addressed how to make infrastructure more resilient; the question of who owned the risk for infrastructure that could concern international networks belonging to public or private sectors; and the trade-off between efficiency and mitigation in infrastructure investment. The panel suggested that it was time to:

- Rethink centralization for critical infrastructure and introduce a decentralized paradigm.
- Plan and take account of cascading disasters (for example earthquakes and fires, earthquakes and tsunamis, earthquakes and floods).
- Set appropriately high technical standards according to best practices for the private sector and ensure compliance with the guidelines.

World Reconstruction Conference Roundtable: The Way Forward – Moving Towards a Sustainable Reconstruction and Recovery Framework

Mr. Alan March, Assistant Director General, AusAID, Australia (Co-Chair)

Ms. Zoubida Allaoua, Director, Finance, Economics and Urban Development Department, World Bank (Co-Chair)

Mr. Zhao Peng, Deputy Director, Emergency Coordination and Security Division, Ministry of Finance, China

Mr. Pablo Allard, National Reconstruction Program Coordinator, Ministry of Housing and Urbanization, Chile

Mr. Praveen Pardeshi, Commissioner, Amravati, India

Mr. Bakri Beck, Former Deputy Chief for Rehabilitation & Reconstruction, National Agency for Disaster Management, Indonesia

Mr. Mian Shaukat Shafi, Senior Project Implementation Officer, Asian Development Bank, Pakistan

Mr. Maxx Dilley, Chief, Disaster Reduction- Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, UNDP

Ms. Helena Molin Valdes, Deputy Director, United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Mr. David Taylor, Executive Advisor, Collaboration and Innovation, World Vision International

Ms. Aimee Ansari, Humanitarian Policy Representative, Oxfam International

Ms. Shahnaz Arshad, Senior Urban and Disaster Risk Management Specialist, World Bank

The discussion focused on the requirements required in the near future for an improved model of reconstruction. There were a number of constraints that the reconstruction community faced in implementation. Standards needed to be improved and processes harmonized. Conclusions for the way forward included:

- Develop an effective, global, sustainable reconstruction and recovery framework.
- Improve financing systems and instruments for recovery and reconstruction.
- Establish a practice in reconstruction and recovery that links practitioners and provides open access to data and information.



Box 5. UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction

The biennial UN Sasakawa Award is presented to institutions or individuals who have carried out outstanding and internationally recognized actions in disaster risk reduction. In the spirit of highlighting civic leadership in raising disaster risk awareness, the Municipality of San Francisco (Philippines), Santa Fe (Argentina) and the District of North Vancouver (Canada) were jointly awarded the 2011 Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction.

San Francisco, a coastal municipality prone to typhoons, was awarded for its innovative use of the Purok system, a traditional method of self-organization within communities where members contribute voluntarily to a money bank used by those in need of emergency funds after a disaster.

Santa Fe, a city frequently hit by floods, was recognized for communicating risk effectively to its citizens.

The District of North Vancouver, prone to numerous hazards; for example, landslides, floods and hurricanes, was also cited for its sustainable and participatory approach, embedded risk management and disaster risk reduction in all city departments.

Other awards included the city of Bhubaneswar (India), and the Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA), an initiative of the Pakistan Government with support from the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), which both received a Certificate of Distinction. The Coordination Centre for Natural Disaster Prevention in Central America (CEPREDENAC), which is based in Guatemala, received a Certificate of Merit.

The Featured Events

Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction

Panellists

Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Reduction (Chair)
Ms. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission
Ms. Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director-General, IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature
Dr. Geoffrey Love, Director, Weather and Disaster Risk Reduction Services Department, WMO
Mr. Andrew Maskrey, Coordinating Lead Author, United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
Ms. Tricia Holly Davis, Director of Commercial Sustainability, Willis Group

Panel members presented the findings of the 2011 Global Assessment Report: Revealing Risk, Redefining Development. Key messages in the Global Assessment Report included:

- While mortality risk to weather-related disasters is declining, the risk of economic loss is rising rapidly across the globe. This is particularly true for wealthier countries, which also face new and emerging risks such as those experienced due to the volcanic ash clouds in 2010.
- The real scale and cost of losses due to disasters remain invisible, but the full spectrum of risk can be revealed, enabling countries to choose the most effective risk management strategies. A first key step in doing so is to account for disaster losses systematically.
- Existing economic planning and development instruments are ideal vehicles for effective disaster risk reduction. Countries that integrate risk considerations into their public investment and social welfare systems are beginning to see the effects of operating at scale rather than through stand-alone projects.
- The ability of a country and government to effectively govern risk will become one of the hallmarks of measuring effective performance of countries and governments overall.

Dialogue with Parliamentarians and Mayors on Disaster Risk Reduction: From Policy to Local Action

Panellists

Mr. Mel Sen Sarmiento, Member of the National Assembly, Philippines (Facilitator)
Ms. Nelly Gray de Cerdán, Senator of Mendoza, Argentina
Ms. Saumura Tioulong, International Parliamentarian Union Second Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade, Cambodia
Mr. Xie Ruiwu, Vice Mayor of Chengdu, Sichuan, China
Mr. Peter Williams, Distinguished Engineer and Chief Technology Officer, USA IBM
Mr. Alex Byarugaba, Member of Parliament, Uganda
Mr. Khalifa Sall, Mayor of Dakar, Senegal

Parliamentarians, mayors and local government representatives play a strategic and prominent role in bridging the gap between national governments and local authorities in understanding and knowledge about disaster risk reduction. They enhance the sustainability and resilience of their cities, towns and communities. Panellists stressed that national and local leaders needed to adopt a long-term development perspective, ensure that funding mechanisms for sustained efforts were in place, and transcended partisan politics in favour of achieving sustainable development. Specific suggestions included:



- Request parliamentarians to assist in oversight and responsibility of the governance in disaster risk reduction.
- Request governments to report to the parliament on the progress in reducing disaster risk.
- Build national capacity for disaster risk reduction to allow national and local leaders to articulate needs and requirements for improving governance of disaster risk reduction.
- Encourage all political parties to affiliate to and support disaster risk reduction.
- Strengthen legislation at the national and local levels to ensure sustained funding and integration of disaster risk reduction into development processes.
- Foster partnerships to secure more funding for reducing disaster risk.

“Let us put the focus on mitigation – otherwise, it is looking at the symptoms and not the causes of climate change.”

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Parliamentarian, Bangladesh

Box 6. Mayors and Local Government Leaders Commit to Disaster Risk Reduction

The Global Platform provided a forum for local government leaders to exchange views and engage in discussions among themselves as well as with experts and national government representatives. The discussions focused on strategies to involve different stakeholders, and to raise awareness to make cities safer and more resilient. They emphasized that the “Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient” campaign is an important guide for disaster risk reduction implementation at the local level. A number of cities initiated plans for mutual cooperation.

Supported by campaign partners, mayors and local government representatives reiterated their commitment as a “core group” of champions to take the commitments to make cities, local governments and their communities resilient to disasters, and pledged a number of concrete actions to support the implementation the Making Cities Resilient campaign in the coming years (see the Mayors’ Statement on Resilient Cities in Annex 4).

“This is the century of cities, with an expected urban population of 90% by the end of the century- with most of the growth occurring in developing countries.”

David Cadman, Rapporteur of the Mayor’s group.

Education and Safe Schools

Panellists

Mr. Chris Talbot (Facilitator)

Dr. Agnes Chan, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, Japan

Mr. Amir Mohyuddin, Director, Disaster Risk Reduction, National Disaster Management Authority, Pakistan

Mr. Cheng Feng, Deputy Director-General, Dept. of Development and Planning, Ministry of Education, China

Mr. Milton Rondo Filho, General Coordinator of Fight Against Hunger, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Brazil

Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha, Manager, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, World Bank

The event outlined progress made in assessing and improving school safety and enhancing disaster risk reduction education. Panellists highlighted the urgent need for leadership, national commitment and increased investment in disaster risk reduction education and safe schools. Disaster risk reduction education and school safety must be part of an ongoing effort to strengthen disaster resilience, preparedness and mitigation, especially in the context of slow onset disasters. Recognizing the slow progress in achieving the 2009 goals of the Global Platform, panellists called for the following steps:

- Accelerate investments in schools and recognise the manifold return in investing in safe schools.
- Recognize that a comprehensive safe schools initiative assists in the realization of other rights and reduces vulnerability of communities and countries.
- Refine the methodology and indicators for measuring progress to cover all aspects of safe schools.

Natural Hazards, UnNatural Disasters – Economics of Effective Prevention

Panellists

Mr. Jordan Ryan, Assistant Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (Chair)

Mr. Matthias Frei, Correspondent and Presenter, BBC America (Moderator)

Dr. Apurva Sanghi, Senior Economist and Team Leader, World Bank

Dato' Seri Mohamed Aziz, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia

Ms. María del Pilar Cornejo, Minister, National Secretariat for Risk Management, Ecuador

Mr. Kenichi Suganuma, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan and Chief Consulate, Geneva

Ms. Vanessa Rosales Ardón, President, National Commission for Risk Prevention and Emergency Response, Costa Rica

The panel brought together a number of disaster risk experts to discuss the joint World Bank - UN publication *Natural Hazards, UnNatural Disasters: Economics of Effective Prevention*. Earthquakes, droughts, floods and storms were natural hazards, whereas unnatural disasters comprise the death and damage resulting from human acts of omission. The publication pointed out that prevention was possible and was also cost-effective. Economically, it was cheaper to invest in preventing these unnatural disasters than to recover from their effects. Through adequate forward planning, many of the impacts of disasters and subsequent losses of life could be avoided. Governments needed to provide their population with information, incentives and safe infrastructure through strong institutions. The publication pointed out that growing cities and a changing climate would shape disaster prevention in the future.

***“Pay more now for preparedness activities
so you pay less later.”***

Vanessa Rosales Ardón, President, National Commission for Risk Prevention and Emergency Response, Costa Rica

Protecting Public Health from Disaster Risks

Panellists

Prof. Virginia Murray, Head of Extreme Events & Health Protection, Health Protection Agency, United Kingdom (Chair)

Dr. Stefan Seebacher, Head of Health Department, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Mr. Mudjiharto, Head of Crisis Center, Ministry of Health, Indonesia

Dr. Jean-Luc Poncelet, Area Manager, Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief, Pan American Health Organization

Dr. Alistair Humphrey, Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health, New Zealand

Mr. Jonathan Abrahams, Coordinator, Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness, World Health Organization

The event stressed the role that community-based health work forces played in building community resilience to disasters. Panellists identified actions and initiatives for a global action plan aimed at reducing risks to health and at ensuring that health services continue to operate fully in disaster situations. Progress had been made on the Safe Hospitals initiative with 42 countries participating and ministers of health having approved regional work plans, resolutions or benchmarks. A qualitative Hospital Safety Index had been developed and adopted. A number of countries were establishing national policies after a number of successful pilot projects in the western Pacific, Southeast Asia, Americas, and eastern European countries.

A progress report on the Safe Hospital initiative was presented. The report confirmed that the goal of signing up all signatories to the Hyogo Framework for Action could be reached if momentum was maintained with additional political and technical support. A key outcome was a joint statement on `Scaling-up Community-based Health Workforces` (see Annex 5). The panel concluded with the need to:

- Recognize significant progress on safe hospitals across the world with over 42 countries with safe hospitals programmes and more than 680 health facilities assessed.
- Redouble efforts to meet the 2009 Global Platform target that all countries should have safe hospitals programmes by 2015 and the Hyogo Framework for Action objective that all new health facilities should be built safely by 2015.
- Recognize the 2011-2012 Global Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Management for Health was presented on behalf of the multi-sectoral thematic platform on disaster risk management for health to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

“We learned that social capital and excellent communication are important following a natural disaster. We also learned that health extends across all aspects of response and recovery.”

Dr. Alistair Humphrey, Medical Officer for Health, Ministry of Health, New Zealand



Operational Climate Services for Managing Socio-Economic Risks linked to the Changing Climate

Panellists

Mr. Jan Egeland, Director, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Norway (Facilitator)

Mr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization

Mr. David Cadman, President of ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability

Mr. Christopher Chileshe, Assistant Director, Ministry of Energy and Water Development, Zambia

Lic Harley Rodriguez, Vice minister of Public Investment, Ministry of Development Planning, Plurinational State of Bolivia

Dr. Lucien Manga, Programme Manager of WHO Public Health and Environment in Africa

Mr Rowan Douglass, CEO Global Analytics of Willis Re and Chairman, Willis Research Network

Panellists discussed that virtually all sectors of economic activity experienced significant impacts linked to weather, climate and hydrological hazards. Understanding how climate was changing helped plan effective risk reduction strategies. The significant progress in climate modeling and forecasting provides opportunities for the development of climate information services. Following the Third World Climate Conference, efforts were now underway to develop a Global Framework for Climate Services to provide tailored information on climate suitable for carrying out routine risk analysis for all sectors. Panellists agreed that the initiative was needed to inform adaptation, disaster risk reduction and development investments. The Global Framework for Climate Services could significantly assist communities to reduce disaster risks associated with climate variability.

“The extraordinary progress in climate modelling and forecasting over the last decade provides us with unprecedented opportunities for the development of climate services that will underpin the management of the risks of extreme weather events through informed planning and risk management strategies.”

Dr Maryam Golnaraghi, Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction, World Meteorological Organization

World Reconstruction Conference Thematic Sessions

Urban Housing Reconstruction and Land Management

Organized by: [Practical Action](#), [SERHAT Development Agency](#), [Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation](#), [UN-HABITAT](#), [World Bank](#)

This Thematic Session discussed the topic of the greatest impact on cities, which is likely to come from natural and man-made disasters. The presentations covered urban housing reconstruction case studies in Sri Lanka, India, Turkey, Peru, and Haiti. The panel discussion explored how the different experiences discussed could be leveraged to fill persisting gaps in the Haiti case. A number of recommendations were proposed, including: the need for the reconstruction sector to learn from the housing sector and treat “housing as a process, not a product”; promoting coordination between multiple implementing agencies; and avoiding the enforcing of an artificial break between recovery and reconstruction.

IT Innovations: Reconstruction 2.0

Organized by: [eCityRisk](#), [European Union](#), [FONDEN](#), [Geodan](#), [Google](#), [UNITAR-UNOSAT](#), [World Bank](#)

The last ten years have seen significant advances in the use of geospatial information to support damage assessment, guide recovery planning and monitor reconstruction. This session emphasized that with an increase in innovation there is a need to demonstrate the economic value of additional data and subsequent analytical products. A critical dimension raised during the session was that there is significant work to be done on sensitizing governments to these new approaches as most of the challenges are about processes rather than technology.

From Assessment to Recovery and Reconstruction Planning - Closing the Loop

Organized by: [European Union](#), [Government of Haiti](#), [Government of Lesotho](#), [UNDP](#), [World Bank](#)

This Session discussed the Post-Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNA) and the critical issues including: that Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) need to be developed in ‘peace time’ and known by all relevant actors; human recovery needs need to be carefully looked at during the assessment; capacity building of national and local governments to conduct PDNAs needs to be a priority for the international partners; and private sector and civil society can significantly contribute to the process and need to be systematically included in PDNAs.

Responding to Natural Disasters in Fragile and Conflict Situations

Organized by: [Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit \(GIZ\)](#), [Government of Yemen](#), [UNDP](#), [World Bank](#)

In this Thematic Session the panel discussed ways of better strengthening state legitimacy through post-disaster response; the inclusion of political, security and justice dimensions; the need to build trust and confidence during a post-disaster situation through early results; the risk management/mitigation; the moving from coordination to combined post disaster/post conflict programs; and the importance of jobs and justice. In this light the panel reflected on possible links between the Hyogo Framework for Action and the findings emanating from the World Development Report “Conflict, Security and Development.”

Monitoring and Evaluation of Disaster Recovery Operations and Programs

Organized by: [HelpAge International](#), [Government of Pakistan](#), [Government of Philippines](#), [World Bank](#)

The core ideas and recommendations of this Thematic Session were that there is nothing in the development repertoire in terms of performance management systems and tools that should not apply to reconstruction; also that the international institutions need to provide mechanisms such as flexible and predictable financial instruments and technical capacity for performance management; and, that pre-positioned reconstruction plans must be rooted in people's participation and in their discussions with their local government. The Chair, panel and the audience were unanimous in calling on implementers to adopt a dedicated performance management framework for reconstruction programs on the lines of that in place for regular development.

Rebuilding Life-Important Infrastructure: The Case of Water and Sanitation

Organized by: [China Northwest Municipal Engineering Design and Research Institute Co.](#), [CSCEC AECOM Consultants](#), [Government of Bangladesh](#), [Government of Peru](#), [UNESCO](#), [World Bank](#)

This session highlighted a number of needs such as the need to use expertise in partnerships for effective water development efforts, as well as to identify and manage strategic ground water. The importance of institutionalizing horizontal knowledge learning to enable other communities to learn before they suffer the same fate has also been emphasised. Political leadership is crucial, and competing instance in the resource must not be omitted but rather reconciled in water and sanitation systems. Overall, participants voiced the saliency of all stakeholders playing a role – the local government and public participation, people/community empowerment, and all sectors must be involved for a thorough change.

Lessons Learned from Large-Scale Reconstruction Operations

Organized by: [Government of Colombia](#), [Government of Indonesia](#), [Government of Pakistan](#), [Government of the People's Republic of China](#), [State of Gujarat](#), [World Bank](#)

The session was comprised of heads of reconstruction agencies dealing with large-scale reconstruction in China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Colombia, who presented their experiences and lessons learned in areas such as communication and coordination of their authority with other branches of government; management and coordination of assistance agencies; and how standards are set for “Build Back Better”. The key message arising from the discussion focused on the need for a centralizing organization to set policies and standards, coordinate assistance, monitor and evaluate results, as well as ensure good donor behavior. The importance of close community consultation and household-driven, community-driven reconstruction has also been highlighted, as well as the importance of ownership at the highest level of government.

Environmentally Sustainable Recovery

Organized by: [Chinese Federation for Corporate Social Responsibility \(CFCSR\)](#), [International Recovery Platform \(Japan\)](#), [IUCN Commission on Ecosystems Management \(CEM, Switzerland\)](#), [Government of India](#), [SKM Enviros](#), [UNEP](#), [World Bank](#), [World Wildlife Fund \(USA\)](#)

The session highlighted the difficulty of integrating environmental sustainability in recovery, particularly when local communities are under stress. As environmental degradation contributes to the cyclical nature of repetitive disasters, reconstruction that incorporates long-term environmental sustainability is key to reducing the impact of natural perils in the future. In this context, it has been concluded that pre-disaster recovery planning is crucial and will require partnership among international organizations, governments, communities, civil society, and the private sector. It has been stressed that there is a need to have one practical guide for a common approach for environmental organizations that highlights the importance of integrating the environment in disaster risk reduction and recovery.

Shaping Institutions for Reconstruction: Options and Trade-Offs

Organized by: [Government of Pakistan](#), [OECD](#), [UNISDR](#), [World Bank](#)

The overarching objective in developing organizational arrangements for recovery and reconstruction is to institutionalize urgency. Whatever approach is selected, it is imperative that it achieves results on an urgent basis. A strong leader and management team needs to be selected and put into place virtually immediately. One of their first tasks is to pose a set of special procedures which accelerate normal bureaucratic functions to enable strong leadership to exercise its function.

Since every donor has its own specific detailed processes and procedures, if left unorganized or unharmonized, could create considerable difficulties for the national implementers no matter how well they organized themselves. Therefore, donors also need to be more tightly organized and coordinated than in the past with one of them selected to exercise a donor leadership role. Part of this role would be to ensure harmonization of standards and processes (i.e. procurement). Finally, a rigorous and public review by donors, government, and affected communities of the working of the selected institutional arrangements should be conducted within six months of the disaster. While no final results can be expected that quickly, the first steps towards early achievements should be visible, and the opportunity for course correction should be acted upon.

Protecting and Empowering Vulnerable Groups in Recovery

Organized by: [CONOMOVDI \(Peru\)](#), [Government of India](#), [GROOTS International](#), [Lumanti Support Group for Shelter \(Nepal\)](#), [World Bank](#)

The session provided participants with a clear understanding of why certain groups are not only more vulnerable to the impacts of natural hazard events, but why they may also be more prone to ending up in a worse situation as a result of the recovery process. Therefore, aid agencies need to “unpack” vulnerability and to move from the rhetoric to practice by prioritizing greater investment in processes that engage poor and vulnerable groups as active participants and not as beneficiaries/victims/clients. At the same time, communities need to organize themselves in order to scale up efforts and make their voices heard.

Innovations in Disaster and Climate Risk Financing for Developing Countries

Organized by: [Guy Carpenter](#), [Lane Financial LLC](#), [Oxfam America](#), [Swiss Reinsurance Company](#), [Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs \(SECO\)](#), [World Bank](#)

The key issues highlighted in the session were about the role of disaster risk financing and insurance needed to increase financial resilience to disasters at all scopes. The panellists agreed that disaster risk financing and insurance does not replace disaster risk management, but acts as a complement and leverages these activities; it provides an opportunity to involve Ministers of Finance in the dialogue on disaster risk management by sensitizing them on their fiscal exposure to disaster risk. It has been discussed that governments can reduce their fiscal liability to natural disasters both by transferring risk to the private sector as well as promoting private catastrophe insurance markets and disaster micro-insurance.

Reviving of Livelihoods and Local Economy

Organized by: BRAC, Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP), ILO, FAO, World Bank

The session focused on livelihoods to kick start the local economy and as a critical element to prevent people from falling into permanent poverty. The Session focused on three options that address livelihoods in post disaster situations and lessons learned from different countries: direct asset transfer (or vouchers), cash transfers and cash for work. The key issues discussed around these options included who to target, how to target, and the need for an exit strategy. Also discussed was the point that data availability is key to design programs – mis-recording is common, and thus mapping and data collection are key in the pre-disaster period and for supporting prevention.

Providing Sustainable Health and Education Services in Disaster Recovery Programs

Organized by: AGEG Consultants (Germany), Asian Development Bank, CARE, UNICEF, WHO, World Bank

The discussion of this session focused on examples of health and education planning and implementation scenarios from several countries, trying to identify some helpful directions in which to focus future efforts. The conclusion consisted of a number of messages regarding the need to eliminate artificial divides between the three post-disaster phases to eliminate overlaps and fill gaps; the importance of “pre-disaster recovery planning” that would include preparedness in reconstruction planning; and the saliency of the big informal sector supporting the reconstruction process that ought to be tapped into.



The Side Events

Hyogo Hard Talk – The Challenge of Local Partnerships for Disaster Risk Reduction

Organized by BOND Disaster Risk Reduction Group

Panellists discussed how best to improve local risk governance; how the profile of disaster risk reduction could be raised; and how change should be driven from the bottom up. There had been limited success in bringing stakeholders together in effective partnerships because often, the parties had never met before. Overcoming a lack of trust was key to success as was an acknowledgement that communities must be genuine partners and not simply the beneficiaries of these partnerships. By building local partnerships, the benefits included enhanced government capacity and outreach, shared costs, improved sustainability, and forums for advocacy.

Integrated Drought Risk Management

Organized in cooperation with the World Meteorological Organisation

Drought risk was not exclusively a problem of precipitation deficits. Measures that reduced communities' underlying vulnerability to drought also reduced their vulnerability to other hazards while bolstering development gains. Participants noted that mismanaged water use was creating drought risks around the world but the impacts were borne chiefly by the poorest countries and communities and often by those who depended on subsistence agriculture. Participants called for an integrated approach to drought risk management if we were to overcome long term vulnerabilities.

Refining the Agenda? Disaster Risk Reduction in Times of Climate Change

Organized by the German National Platform (DKKV) and United Nations University-EHS

The side event provided examples of good practice from science, humanitarian and development practitioners. Recent studies from the German National Platform (DKKV) assessed that the capacity of the international humanitarian response would become overwhelmed by the unprecedented level of need, caused by an increase in the number of climate-related disasters. The solution was a disaster risk reduction framework which included climate change adaptation.

Risk Identification and the National Capacity to Manage Risk

Organized by UNDP, WHO, UNHCR, UN-HABITAT and IFRC

A number of challenges in identifying risks were raised in the side event. Different actors utilized various models and methods to assess risks; information and data were often unavailable; support mechanisms and technical support often lacking; and response efforts not sustainable. Participants agreed that capacity should be built in-country. Regional and international efforts should support national ownership of risk.

Partners for Resilience

Organized by CARE, Cordaid, Wetlands International, Netherlands Red Cross, Red Cross Climate Centre

Five leading Netherlands-based humanitarian, development and environmental organizations (the 'Partners for Resilience') supported by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, have joined forces for the next five years to reduce the impact of natural hazards on vulnerable communities in nine countries on three continents. The partnership reflected cooperation between disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and ecosystem management and restoration. Participants noted that the strength of the partnership was in the specific expertise that each of the five organizations provided. Priorities for the partnership over the next two years included: scaling up of all activities; more communities made resilient to risks; and targeting of government policies on climate change, risk and ecosystem management.

Saving Lives and Improved Coastal Risk Management through Regional Cooperation in Ocean and Marine Related Early Warning Systems in Asia

Organized by World Meteorological Organization, Economic and Social Commission of Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), UNESCO-IOC, International Group on Wind-Related Disaster Risk Reduction (IG-WRRDRR)

The event outlined the damage to coastal regions in Asia as a result of disasters that stem from natural hazards. A multi-hazard approach to disaster risk reduction was required to protect coastal zones. A political commitment was needed to develop multi-hazard early warning systems. National early warning systems and disaster risk reduction initiatives must be supported by regional cooperation. No single country on its own could build all of the required capabilities. Focus should be on building community resilience with appropriate education and training programmes.

How can Legislation Promote Disaster Risk Reduction at the Community Level?

Organized by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

Legislation was a powerful tool for disaster risk reduction. Many countries have reduced their disaster risks by using legislation to create relevant institutional structures or funds for disaster risk reduction. A disparity existed in the laws, however, as well as in the legislation that promoted and supported community involvement and incentives. Guidance was also found to be lacking. Quoting examples from the Philippines, the Dominican Republic, Sweden and Nepal, participants highlighted best legislation practices. A common perceived benefit was the active role for communities and civil society in disaster risk reduction activities. The topic would feature at the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in November 2011.

"I call on the global community to renew its commitments to address disaster risk reduction."

George Zedginidze, Deputy Minister of Environment Protection, Georgia

Views and Voices from the Frontline

Organized by the Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction

The Views from the Frontline programme gathered 50,000 views and voices from people living and working on the frontline of disasters in over 80 countries through face-to-face consultation and SMS. The findings of five pilot country consultations based on the Views of the Frontline were presented. A persistent identified gap was the consistency between national policy and local practice. A number of ideas, proposals, and actions were put forward to reduce disaster losses and help in implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action at the local level.

Science Meets Practice – How can Science Contribute to Risk Reduction, Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation?

Organized by DPRI (Kyoto University), International Disaster Reduction Conference-Global Risk Forum Davos, Integrated Research for Disaster Risk and International Council for Scientific Unions

Participants explored ways in which science can learn from practice and can respond appropriately to practical needs; and how science can contribute effectively to disaster risk reduction practice. Discussion focused on how to bridge the gap between science and practice in disaster risk reduction. Solutions included involving more and wider views (for example from the socio-economic disciplines, political decision-makers, and the private sector) in the research and technical aspects of disaster risk reduction. In addition, scientists needed to apply their findings in a more effective and efficient manner.

Securing our Common Future: An Integrated Approach to Resilience

Organized by World Vision, World Food Programme, Microensure, Africa Climate Change Resilience Alliance (which includes: Oxfam, Save the Children, CARE, World Vision and Overseas Development Institute), and Strengthening Climate Resilience (which includes: Institute for Development Studies, Plan International and Christian Aid)

Climate change increased the frequency and intensity of climate-related hazards. The impact of these hazards increases the vulnerability of people by undermining their livelihoods. Both these effects underlined the need to integrate climate-related hazards and livelihood vulnerability. Participants noted that more collaboration and partnership across the different disciplines was needed. Resources were also needed to integrate disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and development through social protection measures and natural resource management.

Engaging the Community – Volunteerism and Disaster Management

Organized by United Nations Volunteers

The key to safe and resilient communities was to engage the community itself and use volunteers. Participants discussed how best to engage communities and volunteers. Community ownership and sustainability remain key challenges. Governments and organizations should take advantage of the outpouring of volunteer and community support following a disaster. Community contributions needed to be part of disaster response and risk reduction policies.

Activating Africa's Adaptive Capacity – Climate Change Challenges and Lessons from the Africa Adaptation Programme

Organized by UNDP Africa Adaptation Programme (funded by the Government of Japan)

Examples from the Africa Adaptation Programme demonstrated that preparedness actually pays. Participants outlined that in order to increase resilience to climate change and protect development, programmes like Africa Adaptation needed to be cohesive, comprehensive, and include more stakeholders.

Climate Services, Catastrophe Risk and Capital Markets – How Climate Services are Set to Become Embedded with Insurance Regulation

Organized by World Meteorological Organization, Willis Research Network, United Kingdom Met Office, World Climate Research Programme, International Panel on Climate Change, Geneva Association, and the International Insurance Association

The side event looked at the benefits of public-private partnerships engaging the climate research community, national meteorological services, governments and the private sector. The main benefit identified was the ability to leverage resources, expertise and information in order to advance climate modeling and forecasting in risk modeling tools in the finance and insurance sectors. National regulatory frameworks were seen to be critical in driving the insurance and reinsurance sectors. More public-private partnerships would help to ensure climate information was available and operational. The integration of climate information into risk modeling would also assist in the development of insurance and other risk transfer mechanisms.

Investing in Community Leadership for the Local Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action

Organized by the Community Practitioners Platform for Resilience

The side event provided examples of the dialogue and partnerships of the Community Practitioners' Platform with local and national governments in disaster risk reduction. The Community Practitioners' Platform recommended at least 10 percent of budgets for disaster response, recovery and risk reduction should be channeled to communities. Such resources reflected the scale up required for functional community based partnerships.

Success Stories in Inter-Agency Preparedness and the Way Forward

Organized by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Sub-Working Group on Preparedness

The Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) could draw on members to provide expertise in preparedness and develop the response capacity of partners. To become more effective, IASC needed to increase engagement and adopt a common approach with national governments and local communities. Preparedness also potentially reduced the reliance on international humanitarian assistance. Preparedness and disaster risk reduction must therefore be core to building disaster response capacity.

Risk Governance: An Operative Framework for Integrated Action?

Organized by the University of Santiago de Compostela in partnership with Institute of Advanced Studies, United Nations University Integrated Risk Governance Project (IHDP) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (Office for El Salvador)

The governance of risk is a growing and emerging issue. The number of organizations involved in disaster risk reduction added complexity to risk management and governance. There should be a common understanding of existing regulations in order to optimise disaster risk reduction efforts. Public participation in disaster risk reduction decision-making processes should also be promoted in order to strengthen ownership.

Global Task Force on Building Codes

Organized by the Global Task Force on Building Codes

The side event focused on incentives needed to make building codes and standards accessible for all. For example, the use of simpler language, more community awareness, and trained builders to reduce risks would assist in the wider use of building codes. Cities, schools, hospitals and shelter providers also needed to collaborate around building codes. Specific milestones, implementation, and monitoring were required to achieve the 2009 Global Platform targets.

Looking Ahead to 2020 – A Continuing Mission to Secure a Safer Tomorrow

Organized by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)

Urbanization, investment, and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development were the main issues identified looking ahead to 2020. Addressing inequality (for example in poverty and gender) should also be part of a more effective disaster risk reduction strategy. In the age of increasing risk participants promoted openness to new solutions and ‘out of the box’ thinking. Implementation of disaster risk reduction needed to be flexible, but also accountable into the future. Risk reduction was the solution for a safer tomorrow and required resources to build resilience at the national and local level.

Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation at the Local Level

Organized by Duryog Nivaran

Effective local level planning and the application of hazard management required the integration of disaster risk, climate change and development. Integration was important for understanding risks, vulnerabilities and livelihoods. The event cited the example of building financial and social capital as a means to integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation at the local level. Engaging local authorities and institutions would also assist in sustainability.

Integrated Use of Space Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction

Organized by SPIDER Global Thematic Partnership (UN-SPIDER, DLR, Asian Disaster Reduction Center, ESRI, and ISPRS)

Space-based and geo-spatial information was now part of emergency response, but had not yet been used fully in the context of risk management. Information (for example, from the SPIDER Global Thematic Partnership) could contribute to the assessment of hazards and vulnerabilities. The side event provided examples of the application of space-based information to support emergency relief efforts and extension to risk, development and environmental management.

Desa Tangguh – Resilient Villages in Indonesia

Organized by Indonesia's National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) in partnership with community representatives

Indonesia regularly rebuilt communities and thousands of houses following natural disasters. The side event examined how national and local governments work together to build the resilience of communities. The main elements of cooperation included: working closely with communities; creating incentives for people to build back better; and, incorporating local wisdom and knowledge. Indonesia now used the model to build resilience in more villages.

Cities and Flooding in the 21st Century – Trends, Impacts and Policy Implications

Organized by the World Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction in partnership with the World Meteorological Organization and the Japan International Cooperation Agency

Urban flooding was a challenge facing city managers and policy makers in developing countries. The side event presented a handbook for technical specialists and decision makers to assist in more effective flood risk management. A key component in the guidance was the need for more risk awareness and for communities to be part of the decision making. An effective approach to reduce flood risk was good coordination and balanced interventions.

The European Union Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction

Organized by the European Commission

The European Union explained how both their internal and external strategies for disaster risk reduction contributed to the objectives and the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action. The strategies aimed to create more effective and consistent disaster risk reduction. Risk assessments, investment, data comparability and research were all part of the European Union strategy. For the future, the European Union planned to position disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation more systematically into development efforts.

Next Steps on Chair's Summary – Implementing the Priorities

Organized by the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction

The informal post-Global Platform side event enabled participants to reflect on their experience and outline next steps when they returned to their respective countries. Participants suggested that clarity on outcomes and identifying activities to reach those outcomes would help ensure success. Participants indicated they would make presentations and report back to their respective organizations; consider how to align disaster risk reduction with the wider strategic plans; and, determine best method of communications to deliver the key messages from the Global Platform.

Annex 1: IGNITE Stage Presentations

Name	Title
Diane Douglas, Sustainability Pty. Ltd	Mitigating climate change impacts on critical assets and world heritage sites
Ruediger Wagner, Hexagon Geosystems, Geospatial Solutions Division	Info clouds and their potential in disaster risk reduction
Henda Chebbi, Tunisian Health Ministry	Tunisian health policy in disaster preparedness
Jane Rovins, IRDR International Programme Office	Integrated disaster risk: from research to practice
Seyed Mohammad Pezhman, Mayor of Mashhad	Mashhad City is ready
Charles Ham, Hope Worldwide	Investing for a pre-disaster urban children disaster risk reduction
Abbas Jha, World Bank	Building resilient cities for the 21st century and beyond
Kyoji Sassa, International Consortium on Landslides	International consortium on landslides
César A. Velásquez, Consortium Evaluación de Riesgos Naturales - America Latina	Probabilistic modelling of natural risks at the global level: the hybrid loss exceedance curve
Mihir Joshi, Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network	Real time tracking of recovery and reconstruction through last mile technology
Gordon Browne, The Good Earth Trust	Reconstruction with compressed interlocking stabilized earth blocks
Yumio Ishii, World Federation of Engineering Organizations	2011 Tohoku earthquake: damage by the triple disaster
UN Sasakawa Award 2011: Alfredo Arquillano, Vice Mayor of San Francisco/ Philippines and Richard Walton, Mayor of North Vancouver/ Canada	Presentation and moderated discussion on winning project
Sonia Bueno, Sustainable Water Management International	Infraestructura segura ante desastres a través de una gestión sostenible
Taito Vainio, Finnish Ministry of Internal Affairs	Finnish National Platform
Atsushi Koresawa, Asian Disaster Reduction Centre	Great East Japan Earthquake
Fanny Navizet, Institut de Géographie Alpine, Université de Grenoble, France JC Gaillard, Center for Disaster Preparedness, Philippines	A case for including prisons and prisoners in disaster risk reduction

Derk Dumbar Buro Derk Dumbar	A safe place: international system of disaster pictograms
JC Gaillard, Center for Disaster Preparedness, Philippines Jake Rom D. Cadag, University of Montpellier III, France	Fostering dialogue and building trust for DRR through participatory 3-dimensional mapping
Mohamed Abdallahi Ould Babah, Centre National de Lutte Antiacridienne, Mauritanie	Le criquet pèlerin: un risque pour la sécurité alimentaire
Marco Giardino & Massimo Lanfranco, Università di Torino	Enhancing international competence in natural hazard research
Fouad Bendimerad, Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative	HFA Mid-Term Evaluation: an honest view from the implementers
Johnson Ngugi Njoki, Kenya Red Cross Society	Children and youth involvement in DRR
Fadi Hamdan, UNDP Syria	Development of an earthquake school safety program in the Syrian Arab Republic
Seydou Traore, AGRHYMET Regional Centre	CILSS/AGRHYMET role in reducing food crises and other hydroclimatic disasters in West Africa
Annabel Hertz, Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations	Climate change and DRR in the Sahel: overlapping responses?
Robert Watts, Disaster Waste Recovery	Waste Hotline: using GIS tools to reduce public health risks
Martin Bjerregaard, Disaster Waste Recovery	Disaster waste preparedness planning
Denis Chang-Seng, United Nations University	Risk governance for a resilient tsunami early warning system in Indonesia
Gisli Olafsson, NetHope	Disaster response 2.0
Liviu Vedrasco, International Medical Corps	Translating whole of society approaches to preparedness into action
Ramraj Narasimhan, RIMES Edle Tenden, ESCAP	Collective early warning systems: a case from the Indian Ocean and Asia
Trui Paula Uyttendaele, Antea group	Development of the resilience checker FREEMAN
Vajira Hettige & Theo Schildermann, Duryog Nivaran	Building local capacity for risk governance and resilience
Ron Waldman, USAID Michael Mosselmans, WFP Liviu Vedrasco, International Medical Corps	Lessons for disaster preparedness from whole of society approaches to pandemic preparedness
Chris Marrion, Marrion Fire/Risk Consulting Rohit Jigyasu, Ritsumeikan Univ, Kyoto	Incorporating protection of cultural heritage into DRM

Horst Kremers, CODATA-Germany	Documentation, archiving and open access of disaster information
Christophe Jacobs, Jacques Rebière, Daniel Lefèvre & Philippe Garnier, Blue Shield Int.	Biens culturels, patrimoine et risques majeurs
Patricia Alarcón Chaires, Instituto de Investigación para la Gestión de Riesgos en Morelia, México	Reducción del riesgo de desastres in Mineral de Angangueo, Mexico
UN Sasakawa Award 2011: Ivan Morales, Secretary-General of CEPREDENAC/ Central-America and Muhammad Safdar, Director of ERRA/ Pakistan	Presentation and moderated discussion on winning project
Hachim Badji, CADRI	Capacity development for risk reduction
Hélène Beraud, Univ Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée	Méthode d'évaluation et de caractérisation des déchets post inondations
Maxime Chretien, forensic partner Deloitte	Fighting corruption to reduce risk and improve reconstruction
Asim Disaster Preparedness Center	Mainstreaming DRR and climate change impacts in urban local government
M.E. Akdogan, UN-Habitat Tehran Disaster Mitigation Office	Sustainable seismic risk mitigation through retrofitting and mass awareness
Kristinne Sanz, Gender and Disaster Network JC Gaillard, University of Auckland	Why gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction should also include LGBTs
Tamer M. Abou Gharara, Centre Régional pour la Réduction des Risques de Catastrophes	Sustainable institutionalization of DRM
Mathilde Gralepois, Université de Tours	Gestion des services en réseaux lors d'inondations à Nantes, Tours et Nevers
Garry de la Pomerai, Soluzion systems	Soluzion: real-time earthquake early warning and communication
Dang Quang Minh, Disaster Management Centre, Viet Nam	Resilient cities in Viet Nam
Julio Serje, UNISDR	Global Assessment Report 2011
Indonesian Red Cross Society	Volunteers within disaster country
Lifecube.inc	Lifecube - instant shelter
Carolina Garcia, Univ of Milan Bicocca	Integrated people-centred early warning systems
Vanni Puccioni, Arca consulting	Project Robin Hood and innovations for DRR
Otto Kocsis, Zurich Insurance Company	Disaster resilience: elements of the insurers approach

Jean-Benoit Charrin, WaterLex	What do human rights and the Hyogo Framework for Action have in common?
Mathan Rathinam, Parsons School	Magnitude, a new game for discovering DRR and the MDGs
Vivienne Soykova	Crisis intervention for mental health in disasters
Jalal Al-Dabbeek, An Najah National University	Assessment of seismic site effect for Rawabi, first Palestinian planned city
Philippe Brun, Territorios Solidarios	El territorio como eje en la reducción de riesgos de desastres
Graciela F. Ortúzar Novoa, Municipality of Lampa, Santiago, Chile Jean-Claude Eude, Loire River Basin Authority, Aisea Tuidraki, Nadi, Sigatoka Town Councils, Fiji Mark Smith, Water Programme IUCN	Urban resilience: how are mayors responding?
UN Sasakawa Award 2011: Piyoush Rout, Advisor to Municipality of Bhubaneswar/ India and Eduardo Aguirre, Director in the Municipality of Santa Fe/ Argentina	Presentation and moderated discussion on winning project
Mike Tozer, Global Hand	Exploring the business case for disaster risk reduction
Djillali Benouar, University of Bab Ezzouar	Capacity development for DRR in African universities
	Children for resilience panel discussion
Budi A. Adiputro, Indonesian Red Cross Society	Building better shelter through community beneficiaries participation
Angeles Arenas, UNDP	Disaster recovery preparedness and planning (pre-DRP)
Violeta S. Seva, Makati City	Makati Barangay Rizal risk sensitive redevelopment project
Médecins du monde	Health issues and community mobilization in Madagascar
N. Wangchuk, Department of Disaster Mgmnt, Bhutan U.W.L. Chandradasa, Disaster Mgmnt Center, Sri Lanka	Partnership-based approaches for mainstreaming DRR into development
Andrew Power, Deloitte	City preparedness scorecards
Manu Gupta, SEEDS	1000 indicators of disaster risk reduction
Anita Van Breda & Katherine Nightingale, Sphere Project	Sphere and disaster resilience
Andrew Mitchell, Action contre la faim	Applying DRR to insecure and conflict contexts
Hrusikesh Harichandan & Bindya Vachhani, Handicap International India	Creating disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction models

Omairi Hashim & Khairul Zain Ismail	Making cities resilient, the Malaysian experience
Stephen J. Latham, World Vision, Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office	The Community Resilience Project
Michael Murphree & Clara Bocchino, African Centre for Disaster Studies	Finding the Fable

For a complete set of videos of IGNIITE Stage presentations see:

<http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2011/programme/ignitestage/>

Annex 2: Statement of Commitment by the Private Sector for Disaster Prevention, Resilience and Risk Reduction

Preamble

Major disasters triggered by natural hazards impact the lives and livelihoods of millions of people around the world, both in developed and developing countries. While the devastating earthquake in Haiti and floods in Pakistan in 2010 highlighted the vulnerability of poverty stricken nations to natural hazards, the 2011 floods in Australia, earthquake in New Zealand, and earthquake and tsunami in Japan showed wealthy nations are not immune to disaster risks.

Across the globe, the economic and insured losses from these events are rapidly rising in line with the frequency and severity of major natural catastrophes. This is due in part to a combination of rapid simultaneous global economic and population growth. According to the World Economic Forum, between 1950 and 2010, world population grew from 2.5 to 6.9 billion, with much of that growth occurring in areas more prone to the impact of natural disasters, such as coastal areas and riverbanks. Existing limitations in public and private sector disaster risk prevention management and planning, globalisation, and a growing concentration of assets and people in urban centres and high exposure areas are also contributing to the rise in disaster-related losses.

- The ten -year average of economic losses since 2000 totalled US\$110 billion, while average insured losses totalled US\$35 billion. In 2010 alone, disasters cost the global economy US\$130 bn. [Source Munich Re 3 January, 2011]. That figure has nearly doubled this year. Economic losses of selected 2011 disasters, including January's landslides in Rio de Janeiro, the February New Zealand earthquake and the earthquake and tsunami in Japan on 11 March, will exceed US\$200 billion.

Natural catastrophes affect all sectors of business, both directly and indirectly. Disasters can cause operational and supply chain disruptions through the physical damage to property and/or loss of critical resources and infrastructure, such as energy supplies and transmission, public infrastructure and distribution networks. Disasters also affect businesses' staff and customers, both economically and physically, especially those living in the affected areas. In developing countries, disasters pose grave consequences for the survival, dignity and livelihoods of all people, particularly the poor. At the same time, increasing disaster risks threaten hard-won development gains and future sustainable development in all countries. The World Bank reports there have been 3.3 million deaths from natural hazards since 1970, or about 82,500 a year, with large year-to-year fluctuations and no pronounced time trends. Droughts are the deadliest of the four hazard categories (earthquakes, floods, and storms are the others) and poor countries suffer disproportionately - almost 1 million people died in Africa's droughts alone. Between 1980 and 2009, 84 % (865,000) of people killed by weather disasters lived in poor countries [Source: Global, aber gerecht (2010), Munich, ISBN 978 3 406 60656 4]. According to CRED (University of Louvain, Brussels) the annual average death toll for the 2000 decade was 78,000, which is considerably higher than the previous decade. [Source: Press Release UNISDR 2010/01, 28 January 2010]

While the primary responsibility for protecting communities is vested in national and local governments, the private sector plays a crucial role in managing disaster risks and building resilience.

The private sector shares both the consequences of these risks and a responsibility to act in reducing them. In most countries, the private sector is the primary generator of GDP, employs the majority of the population and is the dominant vehicle for innovation and investment. It also has the know-how, organization, resources and capacity to provide solutions. Ensuring a safer and more sustainable future requires coordinated action by multiple actors worldwide through partnerships at multiple levels in politics, technology, economy, civic/ community groups and the public that combine resources and expertise.

The economic case for ex-ante disaster risk reduction and management is compelling:

- For every US\$1 invested in resilience and prevention, between US\$4 and US\$7 are saved in response (Source: California Emergency Management Agency/UNDP).
- Multi-national companies with best practices in managing their property risks produced earnings on average 40% less volatile than those with less advanced risk management plans. [Source: Dr Deborah Pretty, Oxford Metrica Risk Financing Strategies: The Impact on Shareholder Value for FM Global].
- Average property loss is 20 times larger for companies with weak physical risk management practices, while the average loss per location exceeds US\$3 million versus US\$620,000 for companies with robust disaster scenario management plans. [Source: Dr Deborah Pretty, Oxford Metrica Risk Financing Strategies: The Impact on Shareholder Value for FM Global].
- Large businesses with strong risk management programmes compared with those with weak risk management practices, experience, on average, catastrophe losses that are seven times less costly—an average of US\$478,000 per loss compared with US\$3.4 million. [Source: Dr Deborah Pretty, Oxford Metrica Risk Financing Strategies: The Impact on Shareholder Value for FM Global]

In recent decades, the sustainability movement has demonstrated tremendous energy and progress focused on the humanitarian and environmental dimensions, including climate change control. The same level of energy and commitment is now needed for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Sustainability cannot be achieved unless societies both reduce their environmental impacts and become more resilient against natural catastrophes.

In 2005, the United Nations (UN) brought this issue to the global forefront by initiating the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and adopting the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: ‘Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters’.

Through these initiatives, the UN recognizes that disaster response and humanitarian relief efforts alone will not suffice. Unless the root causes of disaster impacts are recognized and addressed, adaptation is improved, and public awareness is elevated, the risks will impact beyond all possible humanitarian response and resources. Raising disaster risk awareness, promoting a culture of prevention and mobilizing adequate resources to build resilience are both an imperative and an investment in the future, with substantial returns for all.

Recognizing the importance of the above, the undersigned member of the private sector commits to the following:

1. We acknowledge the threat posed by disasters and the importance of building resilience and recognize our role and responsibility in encouraging, supporting and acting on the reduction of disaster risks. We commit voluntarily and to the best of our abilities to create awareness within and outside our organizations, identify vulnerability and their root causes in our areas of activity and influence, invest in functional resilience and apply risk reduction and management principles in our decisions within our businesses, and, to the extent possible, in our sectors, supply chains, client bases, and global networks. We commit to make disaster risk reduction and resilience building an integral part of our sustainable development strategy, goals and programs.
2. We recognize the leading role of the ISDR and the importance of the Hyogo Framework for Action as a guiding reference for global disaster risk reduction.
3. We commit voluntarily and to the best of our abilities to embrace, support and enact, within our spheres of influence and capacities, the following Five Essentials for Business in Disaster Risk Reduction, and to partner with the public sector with a focus on local action, taking into account the most vulnerable population groups, such as women, children, elderly and the poor. We acknowledge that at any point in time we may be most active in a subset of the below action items.

Call for Action: Five Essentials for Business in Disaster Risk Reduction

Countries that develop policy, legislative and institutional frameworks for disaster risk reduction and that are able to develop and track progress through specific and measurable indicators have greater capacity to manage risks and to achieve widespread consensus for, engagement in and compliance with disaster risk reduction measures across all sectors of society. In an effort to support the three aforementioned commitments, we agree to the following Five Essentials:

1. Promote and develop public-private partnerships for disaster risk reduction to analyze the root causes of continued non-resilient activity, such as in the urban built environment and related infrastructure, and develop frameworks and policies to change these causes. Encourage, develop and use financial risk-sharing mechanisms to ensure the resilience of facilities and communities to hazards and allocate adequate resources for these.
2. Leverage sectoral private sector expertise and strengths to advance disaster risk reduction and mitigation activities, including enhanced resilience and effective response. For instance, the Engineering and Construction industry can drive safer land use planning and construction standards, while the Information, Communications and Telecoms sector could play an essential role in hazard monitoring, disaster warning, and communications. Likewise, the insurance industry can lend its expertise in risk assessment and evaluation and promote the widespread use of risk transfer tools, including micro insurance/ insurance pools to enable faster recovery and reconstruction, as well as provide fast liquidity in times of crisis. Utilities and Transport industries can influence water management (dams/sea walls, irrigation, desalinization, flood management, sewerage draining) and business continuity activities, including contingency service plans and supply chain resilience.
3. Foster a collaborative exchange and dissemination of data: Share information on assessment, monitoring, prediction, forecasting and early warning purposes and action between the public and private sectors, including through cooperation with UNISDR, ISDR System partners and other international, regional and national actors. Likewise, encourage staff, suppliers, individuals/people, clients, their families and communities to take action to reduce risks and build resilience using communications, awareness-raising events, training and recognition, and conduct regular disaster preparedness exercises with a view to ensuring rapid and effective disaster response and access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate, to local needs.
4. Support national and local risk assessments and socio-economic cost-benefit analyses and capacity-building, and demonstrate opportunities where resilience building and disaster risk reduction is a sound economic strategy, with attractive returns and competitive advantages.
5. Support the development and strengthening of national and local laws, regulations, policies and programmes that enhance disaster risk reduction and improve resilience. Develop, apply and implement internal codes of conduct, standards and procedures through the active engagement in national and regional mechanisms and platforms, and the allocation of adequate financial and other resources.

Signature:

Organization

Representative

Location

Date

Annex 3: Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction

The Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) has been developed through consultations with more than 600 children in 21 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.¹ Children were asked about the impacts of disasters on their lives, the networks that exist in their communities to tackle disasters and their priorities for DRR going forward. The following abbreviated version of the charter presents five points selected based on the priorities identified by children themselves, grouped together according to the most common themes. The aim of this charter is to raise awareness of the need for a child-centred approach to DRR and for stronger commitment from governments, donors and agencies to take appropriate steps to protect children and utilise their energy and knowledge to engage in DRR and climate change adaptation.

1. Schools must be safe and education must not be interrupted ***"I felt unhappy when I saw the school destroyed by the storm. I did not go to school because the school was destroyed. It happened at night and in the morning my friend and I went to school and found it had been destroyed."*** child from Laos
2. Child protection must be a priority before, during and after a disaster ***"We do not feel protected by anyone in our community"*** child from Mozambique. In India, children suggested training in life-skills which they feel would ***"enable them to protect themselves from risks and troubles"*** and that they be provided special care when they are traumatised by disasters. Children have the right to participate and to access the information they need.
3. Children have the right to participate and to access the information they need ***"I am part of the Emergency Committee that has been created in the community. Our goal is to reduce the disaster risk by implementing the principles of the Community Emergency Plan."*** child from Dominican Republic.
4. Community infrastructure must be safe, and relief and reconstruction must help reduce future risk. ***"Build bridges because every year children miss school in the rainy season when they have to cross gullies, rivers and water channels huge enough to drown them."*** child from Lesotho
5. Disaster Risk Reduction must reach the most vulnerable ***"In my area, there were three children about 4-5 years old. Once they went on the river dyke to avoid the flood water which could make them wet on the street, but they slipped and fell in the river and were drowned because they could not swim."*** child from Philippines

The Children's Charter Pledge

By signing up to the pledge below, you can show your support to make this important Children's Charter a reality to improve the situation for children around the world.

"We pledge to prioritise and include children in DRR programming. We will report on progress at the Global Platform in 2013."

1. Schools must be safe and education must not be interrupted

Education was the most commonly occurring theme and prioritised by all children during the consultations. Children want access to information and training in DRR, they want DRR and climate change to be included in the curriculum and for their schools to be safe and built on higher ground. "We want to learn about DRR through outdoor activities; you can find truth from practice" (child from China).

They also want their learning materials to be protected and for safe play areas to be identified before a disaster so they can continue as normal a life as possible. If safe play areas are not identified before a disaster, children report that their movement is restricted and they end up either staying in their homes or playing in unsafe environments such as rubbish dumps or flood waters.

2. Child protection must be a priority before, during and after a disaster

The consultations raised a number of child protection issues which deeply affect children's security and sense of wellbeing. Children want protection from harmful behaviours and practices and state that after a disaster, especially if they are forced to move away from their homes as a result, they feel insecure, at risk and unsafe. "We left our houses to come here when the floods happened. We live in tents; we do not feel safe here" (child from Mozambique). Children also report increased child-trafficking, child labour and dropping out of school as a result of disasters. Clearly, children's psycho-social well-being as well as their physical security is being routinely affected by disasters, and the 'normal channels' are insufficient to protect children.

3. Children have the right to participate and to access the information they need

Children are ready and willing to participate in measures to tackle disaster risks and climate change – they want to help disseminate key messages and protect their communities as well as themselves. Whilst some children acknowledge that measures have been taken to disseminate awareness and information through the radio, village gatherings and school visits, the majority of children feel completely cut off from any information regarding disasters. Children expect and are asking for help to raise their awareness and level of preparedness. Rather than children feeling that "adults do not listen to what we say" (child from Mozambique) children need to be given the opportunity as citizens in their own right to contribute and engage in DRR activities within their communities.

4. Community infrastructure must be safe, and relief and reconstruction must help reduce future risk

Children are sensitive to the continual erosion of development in their communities. For instance, to enable continued access to health care and thereby to reduce illness during a disaster, children highlighted the importance of safe hospitals and health centres. They also identified the need to maintain access through improved roads and bridges as when these are damaged and not repaired, children are unable to travel safely to school and are often forced to stay at home. Children also report that in times of disaster, a range of services are cut off and reconstruction efforts are often insufficient in bringing them back to a reasonable standard. Children have a strong awareness of the need to clean up and care for the environment and the way in which unsafe and dirty environments are impacting them. Finally, they understand safeguarding livelihoods will help them remain children - "The dam water can be used for irrigation and this will help us get food and learn better." (child from Kenya)

5. Disaster Risk Reduction must reach the most vulnerable people

Children recognise that people are affected differently by disasters. They felt that some people are more vulnerable than others and require special attention; yet such groups are often ignored and isolated. The children identified a range of factors including disability, age, gender, social status and proximity (specifically communities living in remote locations) as determining levels of inclusion. "To me, there is a big difference because many disabled children are not treated properly by providing them the necessary information since they are not being taken into account due to the fact of being disabled." (child from the Philippines).

For more information and to sign up to the Children's Charter please visit our website www.childreninachangingclimate.org.

1. The consultations were conducted: by Save the Children in Cambodia, China, Dominican Republic, East Timor, Ethiopia, India, Laos, Mozambique, Philippines and Vanuatu; by World Vision in Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mexico, Nicaragua, Philippines, Tanzania and Vietnam; and by Plan in Indonesia

Annex 4:**Mayors' Statement on Resilient Cities for the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**

The frequency of disasters is increasing and their economic costs rising. Rapid urbanization and the risks associated with a changing climate can further accelerate this trend. According to recent studies, the number of people living with the threat of earthquakes and cyclones in cities could triple by 2050. And we know that the poorest are always hit first and hardest. The 21st century will increasingly be defined by how we address these global challenges.

Cities are engines for development, prosperity and innovation. Covering only 1% of the earth's surface, urban areas are home to half and soon to be two thirds of the global population. Cities are also home to a billion urban poor in informal settlements. Worldwide urban areas use 75% of the world's energy and are responsible for 75% of global greenhouse emissions - with growing and alarming impact on climate change. Today, billions of people live in earthquake prone cities and billions live in cities at risk from cyclones and other extreme weather events. By 2050, these numbers may double or triple.

Local governments, at all levels, urban and rural, are the first institutional levels to respond to disasters and are best placed to reduce disaster risk and build resilience. Local communities matter and are the places where disasters and the immediate and real effects of climate change are most intimately felt. Our cities are already at risk, and increasingly so due to impacts of in-migration driving urbanization. Consequently vulnerabilities and exposure to earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and other natural and man-made hazards are increasing.

It is essential that we work together, that national governments involve and work with the local governments and community leaders in building strategies for risk reduction and for the implementation of these.

Local disaster risk reduction and adaptation strategies - making cities resilient - must support local sustainable development and improve the quality of life of our inhabitants, in particular the urban poor; especially women, children and other vulnerable groups who are most exposed to the impacts of climate change and other hazards.

Elected Mayors and political leaders need to respond to the expectations of our citizens. It is important to make disaster risk reduction an integral part of our development planning efforts. This must include at a minimum, a consultative and participatory approach, the protection of critical water and waste management systems, livelihoods, transport systems, and the protection of individual and public assets including cultural and historical heritage.

The "Making Cities Resilient Campaign", launched in 2010 at the Mayors Adaptation Forum in Bonn, demonstrates local leadership and raises awareness of how our efforts to reduce disaster risk are making our cities safer and more resilient. More than 750 local governments have signed up since the launch and have committed to the "ten essentials in making cities resilient" as a guide for action planning and monitoring. Many cities around the world are already developing and implementing local risk reduction and adaptation strategies in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action.

At the conclusion of the 3rd Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, participating Mayors and Local Authorities wish to make the following commitments:

We commit to:

- Taking a leadership role in linking local level development and disaster resilience, understanding that all stakeholders should be integrated in planning, awareness raising, and investing in disaster risk reduction and resilience building in our cities and towns.
- Becoming promoters and leaders of the Global Campaign for Making Cities Resilient - 'My city is getting ready' - at the national, sub-national and local levels, including participation in city-to-city dialogue, evaluation and scaling up of best practice, and implementation of the "10 Point Essentials" for building resilience.

- Working with our city councils, civil society including the private sector and others to promote legal frameworks and proportionate budget increases aimed at strengthening capacities for resilience at the local government level through strategic spatial and territorial planning, land-use, and development programming.
- Advocating among international and national entities to make resources available through coordination with local governments as a way of strengthening autonomy, capacity, accountability and transparency for increasing resilience within our communities, towns and cities.

We call upon participants of the Global Platform to:

- Commit to advancing the objectives of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign, by:
- Promoting active participation of cities and local governments.
- Supporting the establishment of “Role Model Cities” and promoting national and regional city-networks to increase disaster resilience.
- Acknowledging the need for local governments and communities to have a stronger voice at international forums on disaster risk reduction and climate change in which to share their concerns, perspectives, and actions.
- Maintaining a local government-led regular dialogue for local leaders and national authorities in the context of the campaign.
- Promoting an Alliance of Local Governments to promote disaster resilience including standards and benchmarks, knowledge transfer, broadening political space, sharing experience and monitoring progress.
- Encouraging South-south, city-to-city and triangular cooperation and learning opportunities.
- Sharing information regularly and developing the knowledge base for capacity enhancement on risk reduction for cities.
- Committing to invest in local action and protecting the most vulnerable through appropriate enabling legal and regulatory frameworks that recognize the role of local government in planning for risk, and building in resilience. Understanding that local governments need direct access to financing mechanisms and technical resources from all levels – multilateral, national and local – in order to implement their strategies and initiatives.
- Scaling up advocacy for disaster risk reduction to all sectors, raising awareness amongst decision-makers at all levels to commit to and apply policies and especially financial and legal means for creating disaster and climate resilience at the local level.
- Working together to achieve decentralized political, administrative and legal framework that increase capacities and resources for local governments to deal more efficiently with disaster risk and resilience.
- Defining contributions, obligations and responsibilities of all sectors: state, local government, private sector, community groups, and external partners including academia, faith-based groups, city networks, and those with indigenous knowledge. Reformulating, where appropriate, local development plans to integrate risk reduction in all municipal functions including; building- and land use plans and regulatory systems, solid and liquid waste management, water production and distribution systems, parks and environmental management, emergency management, and development sectors.
- Promoting and achieving meaningful participation of community and interest groups, creating and strengthening networks and coordination, promoting multi-stakeholder local platforms/alliances, establishing mechanisms for social auditing as strategic and cross-cutting aspect of risk reduction and strengthened local and urban governance.

In conclusion:

We call upon the United Nations secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) to increase its commitment to managing the Making Cities Resilient Campaign as a part of its core programme. We further call upon the ISDR secretariat to work with city networks, the UN Organizations and civil society organizations to sustain local preparations for disaster risk reduction, and building local resilience.

Annex 5:

Joint Statement on Scaling-up Community-based Health Workforces

Joint statement of the Global Health Workforce Alliance (GHWA); International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC); United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); and the World Health Organization (WHO)

This Joint Statement is supported by the following agencies: Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), CARE International, International Medical Corps (IMC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Médecins du Monde (MDM), Merlin and Save the Children and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN ISDR).

The aim of this joint statement is to:

- **draw attention** to the vital role that the community-based health workforce plays in all phases of emergency risk management (prevention, preparedness, response and recovery);
- **promote the scale-up** of the community-based health workforce by recognizing all those who make up this workforce, training and equipping them for action at the local level, and including them in planning for all types of emergencies;
- **encourage** governments and supporting partners to reinforce the community-based health workforce by strengthening and preparing existing health systems, and providing resources in support of local action to reduce health risks and manage emergencies.

Community-based actions are critical in managing emergencies

Community-based actions are the front line of protection against emergencies – including disasters and other crises, such as floods, earthquakes, conflict, and epidemics or pandemics – because:

- local knowledge of local risks ensures that the actual needs of the community are addressed;
- local actions prevent risks at the source, by avoiding exposure to local hazards;
- a prepared, active and well-organized community can reduce risks and the impact of emergencies;
- many lives can be saved in the first hours after an emergency before external help arrives.

Community-based actions are becoming more vital as emergencies increase in number and frequency, due to changing hazards (e.g. conflicts and the effects of climate change) and growing vulnerabilities (e.g. rapid and unplanned urbanization). This has put more communities at risk, and has challenged the response capacity of national and international actors. In the past decade, more than 2.6 billion people have been affected by large-scale disasters – 1 billion more than in the previous decade. A comparative study of global and regional databases in Latin America revealed that, for every large-scale disaster, there may be 20 small-scale disasters that are not recorded in global-level statistics. At the local level, emergencies affect both rural and urban communities on a regular basis. These emergencies directly threaten the health of communities; for example, through loss of life, injury, illness and disability. They also affect livelihoods, health facilities and essential services, further increasing emergency-related morbidity and mortality, and putting health workers at risk.

Many different groups make up the community-based health workforce

The community-based health workforce comprises all those at the community level who contribute to better health outcomes by promoting health and providing primary health care (PHC). This workforce traditionally comes from and works in the community, has relevant cultural and linguistic skills, and can be from migrant communities and populations displaced due to emergencies. The community-based health workforce includes:

- community health workers (CHW) who are appropriately trained and accredited according to national policy;
- trained volunteers (e.g. those affiliated with the Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies);
- community-based organizations that promote health through behaviour change communications, health education and social mobilization;
- actors from key sectors (e.g. water, sanitation and hygiene, agriculture, food security, shelter and education) that contribute to promoting and improving the health of communities.

The role of this workforce in emergencies will depend on their level of training and their capacities, national policy and health service delivery, and health-system support at the community level. In addition to PHC, the community-based health workforce is important in all phases of emergency risk management. Their skills need to be recognized, revitalized and strengthened to manage emergencies in hazard-prone communities.

The critical contribution of the workforce is not routinely recognized

Despite the critical contribution of the community-based health workforce in emergencies, this role is not routinely recognized as a core responsibility, addressed in core competencies or included in local and national emergency preparedness plans. Even when community-based health workers are recognized as a part of the health workforce, important career elements related to training, supervision, remuneration and gender issues are often neglected; this situation poses challenges for scaling-up the workforce's role in emergencies. Governments and partners can address these challenges by recognizing the critical contribution of all those who make up the community-based health workforce.

The community-based health workforce contributes to healthier, safer and more resilient communities

Examples of the critical roles and services provided by the community-based health workforce

A: Actions before an emergency

For reducing underlying vulnerability and increasing access to primary health care (PHC):

treat common illnesses such as diarrhoea, pneumonia, malaria and malnutrition
prevent illnesses and improve survival through key family practices (i.e. exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months of life, sleeping under a mosquito net, using oral rehydration solution, washing hands, accessing childhood immunizations and seeking health care when ill) with other key sectors such as nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, food, agriculture, shelter and education
provide selected essential newborn and sexual and reproductive health interventions
contribute to the prevention and management of illnesses that require long-term treatment such as non-communicable diseases, including mental disorders and communicable diseases such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and tuberculosis

For prevention and preparedness:

contribute to risk assessments to identify hazards, vulnerabilities, high risk groups and capacities
contribute to the detection, prevention and control of diseases of epidemic or pandemic potential (e.g. preventing an influenza pandemic by reducing exposure to infected animals) provide risk awareness and health education (e.g. by promoting clean water, sanitation and hygiene), and contribute to social mobilization contribute to emergency preparedness for households, communities and health systems.

B: Actions in emergency response and recovery

For response:

contribute to community needs assessments and ongoing monitoring during emergencies provide priority PHC services including referral, behaviour change communication, and health promotion and education conduct community-based surveillance and early warning of diseases of epidemic potential provide first aid and basic life support, and support mass casualty management including essential trauma and surgical care provide psychosocial services, community support and psychological first aid.

For recovery to development:

continue to provide critical emergency health services
help re-establish pre-existing health services
provide community-based rehabilitation
help to integrate prevention and preparedness into community recovery and development programmes.

Existing health systems need to be well prepared for emergencies

Strong health systems are better able to absorb the impact of emergencies, and respond to and recover from them. Actions that can help to reduce risk to and prepare existing health systems for emergencies include (11):

- having supportive policies, strategies and allocated resources towards managing risk of emergencies;
- analysing risks to existing health programmes and communities from emergencies, and providing early warning to health providers and communities;
- involving communities and health-care workers, and educating them about these risks;
- reducing underlying risk factors by making hospitals and health facilities safe, and targeting essential health care to vulnerable populations in hazard-prone communities;
- preparing communities and the health system at all levels to continue critical health services and provide health care during an emergency.

The health sector is important in national and community-based multisectoral disaster risk management systems, and in integration of actions to reduce risk and prepare for emergencies. Closer links and mutual support between these different roles are needed. Working with other key sectors to provide PHC to communities can reduce their underlying vulnerability and thus help to reduce risks at a national level. The health sector can also provide valuable input to national risk assessments through information on community health hazards such as epidemics or pandemics and vulnerabilities and capacities of the health system at all levels.

Health systems should reinforce PHC to be better prepared for emergencies

Health systems that are based on the principles of PHC improve health outcomes and are better prepared for emergencies. A community-based health workforce that is well trained, equipped and supported can improve access to essential PHC for hazard-prone communities on a routine basis, and during all phases of an emergency. The workforce provides health services based on the risks and needs elaborated by and with participation from the community itself; that is, women and men, people of all ages (including children and young people) and those with disabilities. Community case management (CCM) is a core component of the type of life-saving work that can be built on when an emergency hits. CCM targets the main causes of death and illnesses, reduces risks and contributes to safer and more resilient communities.

As front-line health workers and first responders, the workforce plays a pivotal role in emergencies and should be included in health-system planning for all phases of emergency risk management. This requires coordinated efforts among all key stakeholders, including community leaders, to identify and train the workforce according to roles and responsibilities, and equip them with the necessary resources for local action.

What countries can do to strengthen capacity

Countries can strengthen the capacity of the community-based health workforce by:

- strengthening existing health systems and health emergency risk management programmes that emphasise local level action;
- adopting and promoting policies and programmes that support this workforce through close links, support and monitoring from local and district health staff, to provide essential PHC and emergency health services as part of a multisectoral approach;
- mobilizing the necessary resources to identify, train, supervise, equip and supply this workforce, to deliver essential PHC and emergency health services;
- identifying and defining required competencies for this workforce to manage emergencies;
- identifying and harmonizing all strategies and training programmes aimed at strengthening this workforce with all partners and sectors;
- incorporating input from this workforce and from the communities at risk into risk assessments and emergency preparedness;
- advocating to and educating decision makers at all levels and communities at risk, to increase awareness and knowledge of community-based health interventions in prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

What partners can do to strengthen capacity

Partners can support governments to strengthen the capacity of the community-based health workforce by: disseminating and adopting the actions listed above in “What countries can do to strengthen capacity”; advocating for additional resources and making investments (e.g. funding, technical support, human resources and supplies) to carry out these actions, based on national health systems and health emergency related programmes; supporting capacity building of this workforce to provide essential PHC and emergency health services, including defining the core competencies for emergencies, and the development of necessary guidance, training materials and tools; making use of the capacities and capabilities of the existing actors in this workforce, where partners are directly implementing programmes.

Further research is needed on:

knowledge and skills required for the community-based health workforce to contribute to activities such as local risk assessments, early warning systems, emergency planning and management; identification, adaptation, and use of new and underused technologies for improving essential health and emergency care at the community level; best practices and lessons learned on community-based interventions in all phases of an emergency, for all types of hazards, to strengthen the evidence base.

Annex 6: List of Acronyms

ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CEPREDENAC	Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres Naturales en América Central (Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America)
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECCAS	Economic Community for Central African States
GAR	Global Assessment Report
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
GNDR	Global Network of Civil society Organizations for Disaster Reduction
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SADC	South African Development Community
SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction secretariat
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

Annex 7: Participating States, Territories and Entities

Afghanistan	Costa Rica
Albania	Côte d'Ivoire
Algeria	Croatia
Angola	Cuba
Antigua and Barbuda	Cyprus
Argentina	Czech Republic
Armenia	Denmark
Australia	Djibouti
Austria	Dominican Republic
Azerbaijan	Ecuador
Bangladesh	Egypt
Barbados	El Salvador
Belgium	Estonia
Bhutan	Ethiopia
Bolivia	Fiji
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Finland
Botswana	France
Brazil	Gabon
Brunei Darussalam	Gambia
Bulgaria	Georgia
Burkina Faso	Germany
Burundi	Ghana
Cambodia	Greece
Cameroon	Grenada
Canada	Guatemala
Cape Verde	Haiti
Chad	Honduras
Chile	Hong Kong
China	Hungary
Colombia	India
Comoros	Indonesia
Congo, Dem Rep of the	Iran
Congo, Rep of	Iraq
Cook Islands, the	

Ireland	Netherlands
Israel	New Zealand
Italy	Nicaragua
Jamaica	Niger
Japan	Nigeria
Jordan	Norway
Kazakhstan	Oman
Kenya	Pakistan
Kiribati	Palau
Korea	occupied Palestinian territory
Kuwait	Panama
Kyrgyzstan	Paraguay
Lao	Peru
Lebanon	Philippines
Lesotho	Poland
Lithuania	Portugal
Luxembourg	Qatar
Madagascar	Romania
Malawi	Russian Federation
Malaysia	Saint Lucia
Maldives	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Mali	Samoa
Mauritania	Sao Tome and Principe
Mauritius	Saudi Arabia
Mexico	Senegal
Moldova	Serbia
Monaco	Seychelles
Mongolia	Sierra Leone
Montenegro	Singapore
Morocco	Slovenia
Mozambique	Solomon Islands
Myanmar	South Africa
Namibia	Spain
Nepal	Sri Lanka

Sudan
 Swaziland
 Sweden
 Switzerland
 Syrian Arab Republic
 Tajikistan
 Tanzania, United Rep of
 Thailand
 The former Yugoslav Republic
 of Macedonia
 Timor-Leste
 Togo
 Tonga
 Trinidad and Tobago
 Tunisia
 Turkey
 Tuvalu
 Uganda
 Ukraine
 United Arab Emirates
 United Kingdom
 United States of America
 Uruguay
 Vanuatu
 Venezuela, Bolivarian Rep of
 Viet Nam
 Yemen
 Zambia
 Zimbabwe

African Union (AU)

Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN)

Agency for Technical Cooperation
and Development (ACTED)

AGRHYMET Regional Center (AGRHYMET)

Applied Geoscience and Technology Division
of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SOPAC)

Arab Academy for Science, Technology
& Maritime Transport (AASTMT)

Arab Towns Organization (ATO)

Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction
(RTF-URR)

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)

Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network
(ADRRN)

Asian Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC)

Association of Caribbean States (ACS)

Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Association Territoires Solidaires

Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Center (BDPC)

British Overseas NGOs for Development (BOND)

Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI)

Care International (CARE)

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management
Agency (CDEMA)

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP)

Centre d'Étude des risques gÉologiques (CERG)

Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of
Disasters (CRED)

Organizations

ACT Alliance (ACT)

Action Against Hunger International (ACF
International)

ActionAid International (ActionAid)

African Centre of Meteorological Application
for Development (ACMAD)

Centro de Coordinacion para la Prevencion de los Desastres Naturales en America Central (CEPRENAC)	Gender and Disaster Network, the (GDN)
Christian Aid	Global Earthquake Model (GEM)
Citynet (CITYNET)	Global Fire Monitoring Centre (GFMC)
Coalition for Global School Safety and Disaster Prevention Education (COGSS & DPE)	Global Media Network for Disaster Risk Reduction
Comitè Andino para la Prevenciùn y Atenciùn de Desastres (CAPRADE)	Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR)
Community Practitionersí Platform for Resilience	Global Risk Forum (GRF Davos)
Cordaid	Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood (GROOTS)
Council of Europe (COE)	Group on Earth Observations (GEO)
DARA	Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI)
Development Workshop France (DWF)	Handicap International
Disaster and Development Centre (DDC)	HelpAge International (HAI)
Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Initiative for South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE)	Huairou Commission
Duryog Nivaran	IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC)
Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative (EMI)	Institute of Development Studies (IDS)
Ecole Polytechnique FÈdÈrale de Lausanne (EPFL)	Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR)
Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)	Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE)
Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI)	Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)
EU-CORD (EU-CORD)	InterAction
European Union (EU)	Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
European Volcanological Society (SVE)	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG)	International Association for Wind Engineering (IAWE)
Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO)	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
	International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM)

International Civil Defense Organization (ICDO)	Medair
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	MÈdecins du Monde/Doctors of the World International Network (MdM/DOW)
International Consortium of Landslides (ICL)	Nature Conservancy
International Council for Science (ICSU)	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
International Council on Monuments and Sites, International Committee on Risk Preparedness (ICOMOS - ICORP)	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC)
International Finance Corporation (IFC)	Organization of American States (OAS)
International Group for Wind-Related Disaster Risk Reduction (IG-WRRDR)	Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)	Oxfam International
International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology (IIEES)	Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
International Labour Organization (ILO)	Plan International
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Platform on Natural Hazards of the Alpine Convention (PLANALP)
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Practical Action
International Organization for Standardization (ISO)	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)
International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance (IRHA)	ProAct Network (ProAct)
International Recovery Platform (IRP)	Public Private Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction (PPDRR)
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)	Radical Interpretations of Disasters and Radical Solutions (RADIX)
International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	Regional Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction (RCRR)
Islamic Development Bank (IDB)	Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
Japan Water Forum (JWF)	Save the Children International
Kobe University	Scientific and Technical Committee (STC)
Kyoto University	Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP)
League of Arab States (LAS)	Shelter Centre
Making Cities Resilient Campaign Cities, Partners and Task Forces	

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)	United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
Sovereign Military Order of Malta	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH)	United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER)
Tearfund	
United Cities and Local Governments - Head Quarter (UCLG HQ)	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)	United Nations System Influenza Coordination (UNSIC)
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	United Nations University (UNU)
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	United Nations Volunteers (UNV)
United Nations Development Group (UNDG)	Universal Postal Union (UPU)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Wetlands International
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)	World Bank, the (WB)
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA)	World Economic Forum (WEF)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	World Food Programme (WFP)
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	World Health Organization (WHO)
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)	World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA)
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)	World Vision International (WVI)
United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat (UNISDR)	World Water Council (WWC)
United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)	World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF)
United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)	

Sponsors



United Nations
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction