Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters

22nd OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum: Responding to environmental challenges with a view to promoting cooperation and security in the OSCE area
Montreux, 20 May 2014

by Neil McFarlane
Chief Regional Programme and DRR Coordinator

Foundations of the global work on disaster risk reduction

Establishment of UN Disaster Relief Office (1971)
“to promote the study, prevention, control and prediction of natural disasters”

“fostering international cooperation in the field of natural disaster reduction”

Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action (1994)
“to achieve a safer world by the end of this century”

Geneva Mandate on Disaster Reduction (1999)
“to shift from a culture of reaction to a culture of prevention”

“building the resilience of nations and communities”
UN General Assembly Resolutions 67/209 (Dec 2012) and 68/211 (Dec 2013) decided to convene the Third World Conference on DRR with the following objectives:

- Review the implementation of the HFA over its 10-year term.
- Consider experiences gained at regional and national levels.
- Identify modalities for cooperation based on commitments.
- Determine modalities for periodic review.

UNISDR was requested to serve as the secretariat of the WCDRR.

Groups participating in HFA2 consultations

**PUBLIC SECTOR**
- National governments
- Intergovernmental Organizations
- Local governments - Mayors
- Parliamentarians

**PRIVATE ACTORS**
- Businesses
- Academic and Scientific Community
- NGOs and Civil Society Organizations

Self-organizing communities
- Women’s groups
- Children
- Persons with disabilities
- Elderly
**Towards a post-2015 DRR Framework**

- Proposed by the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/68/199 – Medellin agreed in A/RES/69/111
- UNISDR facilitating consultations that engage a full range of actors from Member States to local society.
- Consultation events include the Global and Regional Platforms, national and local events, and targeted events of stakeholders, partners and networks.
- Expected to be adopted at the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 2015.

**Results of Regional and stakeholders consultations: key issues**

- **Coherence and mutual reinforcement** of the three international agreements in 2015: DRR, SGs and climate change.
- **Public-private partnership.** To curb disaster losses trend.
- **Benefits of investing** in disaster risk reduction.
- **Support population at risk.**
- **Broadening the scope:** emerging risk; environmental and technological risk; trans-boundary disaster risk management and natural resources management; multi-sector and multi-hazard approach, etc.
- **Continued capacity development,** research and use of science and technology.

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**UNISDR**

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**MINISTERIAL CONFERENCES AND REGIONAL PLATFORMS FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

- **2013**
  - May 19-23: Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (Geneva, Switzerland)
  - Sep 1-4: OSIS Conference (Oslo, Norway)
  - Nov 17-18: UNWCCD (Kyoga, Japan)

- **2014**
  - Jul 14-15: Gva: 1st Preparatory Committee
  - Sep 14-15: Sendai, Japan Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
  - Nov 17-18: Gva: 2nd Preparatory Committee

- **2015**
  - Mar 14-18: Sendai, Japan Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

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**UN Secretaries-General’s Report and UN General Assembly Resolution on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.**

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### Provisional Agenda

#### Monday, 14 July 2014

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<tr>
<td>8h30</td>
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<td>9h-13h</td>
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#### Tuesday, 15 July 2014

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#### Friday, 13 March 2015

**Multi-stakeholder Segment**

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<tr>
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<td>11h-13h</td>
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<tr>
<td>13h15-14h45</td>
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**Legend:**
- Intergovernmental Segment (interpretation in 6 UN languages)
- Multi-stakeholder Segment (in English, no interpretation)
Average Progress in Each Priority Area - HFA Europe, some comments

Progress has been made but challenges become greater every year with more frequent disasters.

**Policies and programmes** are in place, but need integration in sectors.

**Risk identification** up-to-date and more effective people-centered EWs.

More application of **science and technology.**

Increase **resources for DRM at local level.**

**Public-private partnerships:** Private sector to consider as actor and partner for DRR.

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The European Forum for DRR (EFDRR), Oslo Sept 2013: special focus on CC Adaptation and DRR

- Members confirmed their **commitment to contribute towards HFA2 with special focus on DRR and CCA and local Level implementation** of the HFA and Governance and Accountability.

- Endorsement of the document "**How to mainstream DRR and CCA**" in **Europe.** The document is set as part of the contribution to the HFA2 consultation.

- Members agreed to organize a **local level HFA 2 consultation** in Italy (2014) inviting the municipalities that have joined the campaign in Europe.

- Establishment of a new **Working Group** which will focus on "**Governance and Accountability**" and joins the two existing working groups; "CCA and DRR" and "Local level implementation of the HFA"
Pilot project: 
*Strengthening the capacity of coordination mechanisms for DRR in the OSCE Region*

**Objective:** build long-term institutional capacities for disaster risk reduction in target beneficiaries  
**Target beneficiaries:** Countries in East Europe and Central Asia.  
**Project Duration:** 01/03/2014 – 31/03/2015  
**Budget:** 400,000 CHF  
**Donor:** Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

**Activities and Expected Results:**
- Strengthened capabilities of targeted beneficiaries in DRR governance.  
- Promote standard disaster losses databases.  
  - Enhanced institutional cooperation among beneficiaries institutions.  
- Participation in consultations on the post-2015 framework to be adopted at the Third UN World Conference on DRR.

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**Thank you for your attention.**

*Let’s continue working together to build the resilience of nations and communities to disasters.*

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