Regional Joint Conference on
“Disaster: Relief and Management – International Cooperation & Role of ICT”
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Disaster Risk Reduction & Disaster Management, Need for Complementary Approach

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Disaster trends – rising and changing

- Over last decade: 900,000 dead, US$ 570B losses, 2,600 million people affected, poor people and countries most affected, most disasters are weather or climate related

- Growth over period; 1990s versus 1960s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of events</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic losses</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insured losses</td>
<td>15.7</td>
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Global Trends (risk)- Disasters are NOT natural

- Natural and human-induced hazards
- Climate change and variables

Socio-economic: poverty, unplanned urban growth, lack of awareness and institutional capacities...

Physical: insufficient land use planning, housing, infrastructures located in hazard prone areas...

Environmental degradation
- oil spills; coastal, watershed, forest, wetland degradation...

Anatomy of “natural” disasters

Natural hazard + Vulnerability = Disaster Risk
Reducing risk is everyone’s business!

- All sectors have a responsibility - can increase or reduce risk depending on decisions
- It is a “cross-cutting” & holistic issue requiring a gender balanced and community development approach
- It needs sustained commitments, resources and tools, and institutional development to build capacities
- It requires close collaboration at international and regional levels
Disaster Reduction – An Agenda in Progress

1989: IDNDR 1990-1999 – promotion of disaster reduction, technical and scientific buy-in

1994: Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action – Mid-review IDNDR, first blueprint for disaster reduction policy guidance (social & community orientation)

2000: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) - increased public commitment and linkage to sustainable development, enlarged networking and partnerships. Mechanisms: IATF/DR, ISDR secretariat, UN Trust Fund

2002: Johannesburg Plan of Implementation- WSSD Includes a new section on “An integrated, multi-hazard, inclusive approach to address vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management…”

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Launched in 2000 by UN General Assembly Resolution A/54/219 as successor of the International Decade on Natural Disaster Reduction – IDNDR, 1990-1999:

The ISDR aims at building disaster resilient communities by promoting increased awareness of the importance of disaster reduction as an integral component of sustainable development, with the goal of reducing human, social, economic and environmental losses due to natural hazards and related technological and environmental disasters.
ISDR secretariat’s main functions:

(a) **Policy and Coordination** *(CSD, LDCs, SIDS, CC, EW, UN/water, UN/oceans, etc.)*

(b) **Advocacy** *(annual awareness campaign, publications)*

(c) **Information Management and Networks** *(website, clearinghouse, Living with Risk)*

(d) **Partnerships for Applications** *(with UN agencies, IGOs, NGOs, Governments, academic institutions, private sector, media)*
Key Messages from Hyogo


✓ Integrate disaster risk reduction into policies, plans and programmes of sustainable development and poverty reduction

✓ United Nations system and international financial institutions to engage fully in building disaster resilient nations and communities

✓ Focus on National Implementation, through bi-lateral, regional and international cooperation.
Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015:

Five priorities for action 2005-2015:

1. **Governance**: ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with strong institutional basis for implementation

2. **Risk identification**: identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

3. **Knowledge**: use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

4. **Reducing the underlying risk factors**

5. **Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response**
Build a disaster risk reduction movement – ISDR system

- Our objective: To reduce disaster risk, worldwide, focussing on nations and communities


- The vehicle: ISDR system - ‘movement ’
What complementary approach means and where are the windows of opportunities in humanitarian aid.

Mainstreaming:

✓ To make sure the development programmes and projects that originate from or are funded by an agency are:
- designed with consideration for potential disaster risks and to resist hazard impact;
- do not inadvertently increase vulnerability to disaster in all sectors: social, physical, economic and environmental;

✓ To make certain that all the disaster relief and rehabilitation programmes and projects designed to contribute to national developmental aims and reduce future disaster risks;
Windows of opportunities – following disasters:

- Attention of policy makers;
- Presence of donor and their mechanisms for pulling resources;
- Use of relief resources;
- Build on the post evident lessons learnt to highlight the underlying causes;
- Recovery standards – make sure that DRR dimension is reflected.
- “Build back better”
• Examples:
• National Committee on disaster under Prime Minister
  • DRR shifted from Agriculture to Home Ministry

GUJRAT’01
• Disaster management introduced in curriculum of school education, engineering, architecture, medicine
• New building standards in seismic zones
• National Institute of Disaster Management set up
• Community based DRM program in 17 States
• Disaster Management Bill 2005 introduced in Parliament prescribing legal-institutional framework of disaster management

• National Policy on Disaster Reduction
  • National Disaster Management Authority set up

• Tsunami Early Warning system approved for 50 million USD

• Emergency Operation Centre in National, State and District Headquarters

• Nation wide Disaster Communication Plan
Windows of opportunities
Pakistan – Safer Construction

In Pakistan, work is undergoing with earthquake rehabilitation and reconstruction agency, Government of Pakistan, Universities, Associations of Architects and Engineers to promote safe building standards in the recovery efforts.

• Promoting Safe schools, and disaster management contingency plans for schools
• ISDR brings its comparative advantage: Global networks of disaster reduction, which enabled it bring International Best practices in seismically safe construction and training practices through NSET and Kyoto University to be available to National and local authorities
• Sharing of Regional experiences from similar disasters from Iran, India, Nepal and Indonesia in safe earthquake reconstruction
Disaster Management and disaster risk reduction

Life saving, rapid actions at the beginning may set the trend for “non” risk reducing reconstruction:

- Hasty reconstruction without seismic standards
- Reconstruction in flood plains,
- Environmental destruction by settling on forested hill slopes, risking further landslides
- HA can have long term negative disaster risk implications if not carried out properly
Some lessons learnt to be applied

- Assess the disaster risk factors during the design of intervention projects;
- Promote alternatives of temporary housing and water supply which do not result in rebuilding risks;
- Knowledge of safer construction, of non environmentally destructive alternatives, and recycling disaster wastes;
- Factoring these approaches into Flash Appeals at the beginning of the HA cycle will ensure that HA does not create new risks;
- Pakistan and Tsunami EWS, supported by ECHO provide DRR in the Humanitarian phase by addressing the knowledge gap on DRR to build on “show cases”;
- HA strong position to address knowledge and capacity gaps at the beginning of its operations.
HOW TO mainstream - some experiences and on-going initiatives

Mainstreaming through sustainable development national initiatives:

✓ Build on existing links between disaster risk reduction and MDGs;

✓ In PRSP (ex. Senegal; Bangladesh; and other 20 high disaster prone countries targeted by WB);

✓ In UNCT joint programmes (in collaboration with governments, NGOs, main stakeholders; donors) – CCA/UNDAF: Guidelines available. (India, Djibouti, Iran, Georgia)
Important forthcoming events:

• **At global level:**
  1st Meeting of the Global Platform of International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Geneva, 5-7 June 2007

• **At regional level:**
  - 1st Middle East and North Africa Regional Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction and Hazard Risk Management, Cairo 18-21 April 2007

For more information please visit [www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org) and contact Mostafa Mohaghegh at:

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