

# SUMMARY of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (Hyogo Framework)

## Expected outcome, strategic goals and priorities for action 2005-2015

### Expected Outcome

The substantial reduction of disaster losses, in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and countries

### Strategic Goals

The integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning

Development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes

### Priorities for Action

**1. Ensure that disaster risk reduction (DRR) is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation**

- DRR institutional mechanisms (national platforms); designated responsibilities
- DRR part of development policies and planning, sector wise and multisector
- Legislation to support DRR
- Decentralisation of responsibilities and resources
- Assessment of human resources and capacities
- Foster political commitment
- Community participation

**2. Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning**

- Risk assessments and maps, multi-risk: elaboration and dissemination
- Indicators on DRR and vulnerability
- Data & statistical loss information
- Early warning: people centered; information systems; public policy
- Scientific and technological development; data sharing, space-based earth observation, climate modeling and forecasting; early warning
- Regional and emerging risks

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

- Information sharing and cooperation;
- Networks across disciplines and regions; dialogue
- Use of standard DRR terminology
- Inclusion of DRR into school curricula, formal and informal education
- Training and learning on DRR: community level, local authorities, targeted sectors; equal access
- Research capacity: multi-risk; socio-economic; application
- Public awareness and media

**4. Reduce the underlying risk factors**

- Sustainable ecosystems and environmental management
- DRR strategies integrated with climate change adaptation
- Food security for resilience
- DRR integrated into health sector and safe hospitals
- Protection of critical public facilities
- Recovery schemes and social safety- nets
- Vulnerability reduction with diversified income options
- Financial risk-sharing mechanisms
- Public-private partnership
- Land use planning and building codes
- Rural development plans and DRR

**5. Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels**

- Disaster management capacities: policy, technical and institutional capacities
- Dialogue, coordination & information exchange between disaster managers and development sectors
- Regional approaches to disaster response, with risk reduction focus
- Review & and exercise preparedness and contingency plans
- Emergency funds
- Voluntarism & participation

### Cross Cutting Issues

Multi-hazard approach

Gender perspective and cultural diversity

Community and volunteers participation

Capacity building & technology transfer

Contributing to the achievements of the internationally agreed development goals (including the MDGs)

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR IMPLEMENTING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

(Adapted from ISDR guidance and indicator package for implementing priority 5 of the HFA)

## 1. Effective disaster risk reduction requires community participation.

The involvement of communities in the design and implementation of activities helps to ensure that they are well tailored to the actual vulnerabilities and to the needs of the affected people. This informed engagement helps to avoid problems and secondary effects when hazard events occur. Participatory approaches can more effectively capitalize on existing indigenous capacities. They are usually also more sensitive to gender, cultural and other context-specific issues that can undermine or empower particular groups and individuals to take locally based action. The incorporation of local perspectives into decision and activities also helps to ensure that changes in vulnerability and perception of risk are recognised and factored into institutional processes, risk assessments, and other programmes and policies.

## 2. States have the primary responsibility for implementing measures to reduce disaster risk.

Disaster risk reduction needs to be an essential part of a state's investment in sustainable development. States have the power as well as the responsibility to protect their citizens and their national assets by reducing the losses from disasters. States however cannot do the job alone. Effective disaster risk reduction relies on the efforts of many different stakeholders, including regional and international organisations, civil society, including volunteers, the private sector, the media and scientific community.

## 3. Disaster risk reduction must be integrated into development activities.

Disasters undermine hard won development gains, destroying lives and livelihoods and trapping many people in poverty. Disasters hold back development and progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Many countries are not on course to meet the MDGs by 2015. Country progress reports on MDGs frequently note progress being affected by disasters. While these effects are difficult to quantify, increases in numbers below poverty thresholds following a disaster have showed up in aggregate national statistics in many cases. Decision-makers who ignore the relationship between disasters and development fail the people who place their trust in them.

## 4. A multi-hazard approach can improve effectiveness.

A particular community is usually exposed to risks from a variety of hazards. The resulting cumulative risk cannot be tackled effectively if actors plan merely for selected hazardous events. A multi-hazard approach involves translating and linking knowledge of a full-range of hazards into disaster and risk management. It will look not only at natural hazards, but also factors including political strategies, technical analysis, and operational capabilities and public understanding. This approach will ultimately lead to greater effectiveness and cost efficiency.

## 5. Capacity development is a central strategy for reducing risk.

Capacity development is needed to build and maintain the ability of people, organisations and societies to manage their risks successfully themselves. This requires not only

training and specialized technical assistance, but also the strengthening of capacities of communities and individuals to recognize and reduce risks in their localities.

## 6. Decentralize responsibility for disaster risk reduction.

Many disaster risk reduction activities need to be implemented at the District, sub-county and local levels, as the hazards faced and the populations exposed are specific to particular geographic areas. It is necessary to decentralize responsibilities and resources for disaster risk reduction to relevant sub national or local authorities as appropriate. Decentralisation can also motivate increased local participation along with improved efficiency and equitable benefits from local services.

## 7. Gender is a core factor in disaster risk and in the reduction of risk.

Gender is a central organizing principle in all societies. Differences in gender roles will lead to differing risk profiles for women and men in a disaster. In all settings- at home, at work or in the neighborhoods-gender shapes the capacities and resources of individuals to minimize harm, to adapt to hazards and respond to disasters. It is evident from past disasters that low-income women and those who are marginalized due to marital status, physical ability or age, social stigma or caste are especially disadvantaged. At the grass roots level, on the other hand, women are often well positioned to manage risk due to their roles as both users and managers of environmental resources, as economic providers, and as caregivers and community workers. For these reasons it is necessary to identify and use gender differentiation information, to ensure that risk reduction strategies are correctly targeted at the most vulnerable and are effectively implemented through the roles of both women and men.

## 8. Public-private partnerships are an important tool for disaster risk reduction.

Public-private partnerships are voluntary joint associations formed to address shared objectives through collaborative actions. They may involve public organisations such as government agencies, professional and/or academic institutions and NGOs, together with business organisations such as companies, industry associations and private foundations. Because the threats from natural hazards affect both public and private interests alike, private-public partnerships can offer opportunities to combine resources and expertise and to act jointly to reduce risks and potential losses. They can therefore improve the resilience of communities.

## 9. Disaster risk reduction needs to be customized to a particular setting.

States vary greatly in their political, socio-economic, cultural, environment, and hazard circumstances. Measures that succeed in reducing risk in one setting may not work in others. Customizing involves making use of others' experience, for instance by reviewing the contexts of particular measures and the nature of good practices and lessons learned, and then tailoring these to implement policies and activities that are appropriate for the local contexts.

### CONTACTS

Refer to the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction  
ISDR Website <http://www.unisdr.org>