

## Project Proposal

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We know what to do. All countries, from the richest to the poorest, should build disaster risk reduction into their development and poverty reduction plans...International donors should support the trust funds established to help poor countries cope with natural disasters.

Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary-General

Project Title	Enhanced adaptation to climate change through the application of disaster risk reduction principles and practices in national, regional, and international processes
Amount Requested	USD 12,188,775.51
Implementation Period	2010 – 2011 Biennium
Impact	Reduced disaster risk and more effective climate change adaptation, especially in vulnerable developing countries

## 1. General Information

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat

### Executive Summary of the Action

*Title:* Enhanced adaptation to climate change through the application of disaster risk reduction principles and practices in national, regional, and international processes

*Implementation Period:* 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011

*Impact:* The main impact will be reduced risk and more effective adaptation, especially in vulnerable developing countries, arising from greater Government capacities and investment in risk-reducing adaptation action.

*Objective:* To broader acceptance and application of disaster risk reduction principles and practices in climate change adaptation at global, regional, national and local levels.

#### *Outcomes:*

1. Enhanced political commitment and national investment in climate risk reduction
2. Improved availability and uptake of information on climate risks and risk-reducing adaptation strategies
3. Greater coherence and coordination of climate-related disaster risk reduction among international and regional actors
4. Regional and sub-regional climate-related risks assessed and action plans developed to address these risks

#### *Financial Summary (USD)*

***Overall estimated cost: USD 12,188,775.51***

## 2. Background and Context

UNISDR has actively supported the adoption of disaster risk reduction principles and practices in UNFCCC processes over many years, through high-level advocacy, awareness raising and preparation of key messages and guidance materials, in collaboration with ISDR system partners. This has included joint side events, advice to delegations, briefing notes, the *2009 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction: Risk and poverty in a changing climate*, and facilitating the participation of national disaster risk managers in the UNFCCC climate change talks and in related mechanisms such as the Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The need for disaster risk reduction was well recognized in the Bali Action Plan, agreed at COP-13, and it remains today a steadfast aspect of current draft outcome documents with strong support from Parties.

Moreover, many national and local governments are not waiting for the final outcomes of COP 15 and COP 16, but instead are already moving ahead on to reduce disaster risks and to adapt. For example, in the Philippines, national policies have been advanced to harmonize the goals of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. In the Maldives, the President has undertaken an initiative to develop a national strategy for addressing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. In the Gambia, national institutional structures for jointly addressing disaster risk and climate change are being strengthened. In several cases, UNISDR regional offices have directly assisting Governments in the formulation and execution of these strategies, including through active collaboration with ISDR system partners at international, regional and national levels.

In these countries and others, there is a growing demand for more specific and practical guidance, more pertinent and usable information and scaled-up capacity building, to enable governments and organizations to undertake systematic well-founded policies and programmes. This is an important stage of progress – the shift toward putting ideas into action – and it represents a natural outcome of past advocacy and awareness-raising.

### 3. Impact

This proposal, for an estimated cost of USD 12,188,775.51 million, will expand the application of disaster risk reduction principles and practices in national and international processes.

The main impact will be reduced risk and more effective adaptation, especially in vulnerable developing countries, arising from greater Government capacities and investment in risk-reducing adaptation action.

It will achieve this through four outcomes:

#### **Enhanced political commitment and national investment in climate risk reduction:**

Political commitment and national investment are essential requirements for progress. This outcome will be sought through continued advocacy and informational inputs to UNFCCC and other international processes, including through the Secretary-General's office, together with strengthened efforts in countries to stimulate the integration of adaptation and disaster risk reduction capacities at national level.

#### **Improved availability and uptake of information on climate risks and risk-reducing adaptation strategies:**

There is a strongly growing demand for information on how to effectively implement disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. To address this demand, UNISDR will facilitate the collection and assessment of information on current practices, including those available in “grey” literature as well as peer-reviewed journals. UNISDR will also identify and contribute expertise and resources to assist in the preparation the IPCC Special Report on "Managing the Risks of Extreme

Events to Advance Climate Change Adaptation.”<sup>1</sup> The systematic generation of information will also assist in the preparation of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report and the UNISDR 2011 Global Assessment Report, and will aid the work of existing and proposed regional centres for adaptation implementation. Good practice summaries, guidance notes and communications products also will be produced.

### **Greater coherence and coordination of climate-related disaster risk reduction among international and regional actors**

Coherence, coordination and accountability among external actors are key demands from Governments, national organizations and donors. This will be enhanced through ISDR system mechanisms, particularly the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, regional and thematic partnerships and PreventionWeb, and by improved tools to map actors and initiatives and to track progress and investments.

### **Regional, sub-regional and national climate-related risks assessed and action plans developed to address these risks:**

Risk assessments and action plans are critical tools for national action. In cooperation with key partners, information on hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities for risk reduction will be generated at sub-regional scale for four targeted sub-regions and at the national scale for selected countries. These sub-regional and national assessments will then be used to advocate for and support the development of national action plans that integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation concerns.

## **4. Problem Statement**

There is growing recognition that disaster risk reduction and climate change not only are linked issues but also are core matters for development policy and humanitarian action. This perspective is recognized in the Hyogo Framework for Action as well as the Bali Action Plan. Moreover, the technical tools to deal with each issue – to reduce vulnerability and build resilience – are very similar. It follows therefore that the integrating of policy responses and programme action for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation will bring significant advantages in effectiveness and cost efficiency.

With Governments increasingly aware of climate change and disaster risk and increasingly motivated to take action to protect their people and to implement the Hyogo Framework and respond to UNFCCC guidance, they are now seeking substantially improved information, guidance and support, particularly from the international community. This includes strategies and tools for enhanced coordination and coherence of action between the two fields, and means to scale up programme action, as was emphasized at the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in June 2009.

UNISDR experience and analysis has identified a number of shortcomings and barriers to up-scaling disaster risk reduction in climate change policy and programmes.

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<sup>1</sup> Work on preparing the IPCC Special Report has already commenced. Because of the urgency involved, a separate proposal for USD1.8 M has been prepared for this work, described in Item 2.1 of the present proposal, and should be consulted for further information.

- Fundamental understanding of disasters and their causative factors is not yet widespread, which inevitably leads to limited or erroneous policy responses. Too often disasters are confused with natural hazards and the role of socio-economic choices in exacerbating disaster risk is unrecognized. Climate change, on the one hand, is highlighting the hazard side of the equation in popular thinking, but on the other, is drawing attention among professionals to risk-reducing adaptation action. There is a strong and growing demand for proven methods and information on how disaster risk reduction tools can be used to advance adaptation.
- The climate change and disaster risk reduction policy fields and communities are largely disconnected. Within the community of actors concerned with climate change policy, planning and programme design, there is often an inadequate recognition and understanding of disaster risk reduction. Similarly, among those actors concerned with disaster risks, the focus is often on short-term issues of preparedness with little consideration of climate change and the long term.
- While there is a substantial base of methods, tools and standards for disaster risk reduction, including the guidance of the Hyogo Framework, the available body of knowledge is far from complete and has not been developed to meet the needs of scaled-up national action or the particularities of climate change adaptation. Sectoral approaches to adaptation and disaster risk reduction are still fragmented and undeveloped. Much of the information is in the form of grey literature – such as reports, manuals and guidance notes – and there is a need to collect and authoritatively assess and summarise this information.
- At national levels, there many gaps and shortcomings, including a lack of well-developed roadmaps or processes for integrating climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction into development planning. Approaches for national leadership, institutional development, and internal advocacy are often absent, as also are data and maps of climate-related risks and the capacities for collecting, analysing and applying such information

## 5. Principal Objective(s) of the Action

To broader acceptance and application of disaster risk reduction principles and practices in climate change adaptation at global, regional, national and local levels.

## 6. Principal Outcomes of the Action

5. Enhanced political commitment and national investment in climate risk reduction
6. Improved availability and uptake of information on climate risks and risk-reducing adaptation strategies
7. Greater coherence and coordination of climate-related disaster risk reduction among international and regional actors
8. Regional and sub-regional climate-related risks assessed and action plans developed to address these risks

***Description of work to be undertaken in support of each outcome***

**1 Enhanced political commitment and national investment in climate risk reduction:**

At international level efforts will focus on major policy processes in climate, water and environment, for example through briefings of delegates, funding the participation of risk experts in national UNFCCC delegations, formal submissions to UNFCCC calls for information, and advice to the UNFCCC Secretariat. It will support UN System policy and advocacy particularly initiatives by the Secretary-General and initiatives by parliamentarian networks and regional intergovernmental processes. Parallel efforts at national level will be strengthened, for example by fostering linkages between risk reduction and climate change offices, facilitating regional dialogues, providing advice and guidance products to national actors, and supporting capacity development initiatives.

**2 Improved availability and uptake of information on climate risks and risk-reducing adaptation strategies:**

At the national level the project will collate and distil practical experience of climate-related disaster risk reduction and will develop and disseminate well-founded practical guidance materials. Much of the necessary information is at hand but is not readily accessible or tailored to the needs of national actors in different sectors. At the international level it will develop evidence-based global standards of information for key contexts and areas of concern, such as cities or specific sectors. The information produced will contribute to the preparation of three key publications: the IPCC Special Report “Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Adaptation;” the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report; and the UNISDR 2011 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction. At all levels, the relevant national or expertise stakeholders will be actively engaged in sourcing and validating the information products.

**3 Greater coherence and coordination of climate-related disaster risk reduction among international and regional actors:**

Globally, adaptation-related disaster risk reduction efforts are still at an early stage of development and are therefore generally scattered, uncoordinated and under-resourced. This outcome will be pursued through all the means available to the UNISDR, including through ISDR System networks and partnerships, regional mechanisms, UN System processes (such as the UN Country Teams and UNDAF process), the ISDR Joint Work Programme, the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Mid Term Review. The outcome will be supported by the development of underpinning resources such as mapping of relevant mandates and initiatives.

**4 Regional, sub-regional and national climate-related risks assessed and action plans developed to address these risks:**

This outcome will provide necessary foundations of information and capacity for implementing national adaptation-related disaster risk reduction programmes, in line with Hyogo Framework Priority 2. It will expand upon pilot efforts of the World Bank and UNISDR and will lead to well-developed roadmaps or processes for national leadership, planning and action, along with a basis of necessary risk assessment tools and capacities.

7. Table of Outputs, Results, Estimated Costs and Intended Impacts

<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Costs (USD)</b>	<b>Impact</b>
1.1 Clear references to climate risk reduction included in post-Copenhagen Climate Change agreements and related implementation mechanisms	Participation of UNISDR staff and national DRR advisors in UNFCCC negotiations and related meetings (such as Nairobi Work Programme); Support to HLCP, Policy Committee and SG Climate Change Team efforts to promote UN-wide policies and strategies for coherence in climate risk adaptation; Progress reported and emerging issues identified at 3rd Global Platform	UNFCCC negotiators, national DRR advisors; UN SG and agencies and ISDR system partners	\$ 353,690	Greater political and financial commitment to disaster risk reduction through adoption of DRR principals and practices in globally binding agreements and related institutional arrangements
1.2 Capacities for DRR in climate change adaptation built jointly	Practitioners and policy makers in climate change adaptation introduced to the DRR tools and capacities available nationally and regionally; institutional contacts strengthened between the two communities through joint problem solving/training exercises; strategy for integrating DRR into UN Country Team's work on climate change developed.	National policy makers and practitioners, experts, UN Country Team	\$1,080,280	Greater awareness of existing resources and capacities for disaster risk reduction on the part of climate change policy makers and programme managers; greater awareness of the needs and opportunities of climate change adaptation on the part of national and regional disaster risk managers.

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<p>2.1 Enhanced provision of disaster risk reduction expertise and information contributing to the preparation of the IPCC Special Report on "Managing the Risks of Extreme Events to Advance Climate Change Adaptation," the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, and the UNISDR 2011 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction</p>	<p>Collection and assessment of information on current practices in "grey" literature and peer-reviewed journals; facilitated publication of more peer-reviewed journal articles; bibliographies developed; mobilization of information resources in regions; IPCC-selected Lead Authors from UNISDR participate as Lead Authors in IPCC Special Report; Special Report promoted and disseminated in cooperation with IPCC secretariat, and strategies and plans for further uptake and practical application developed.</p>	<p>Experts, ISDR System partners, IPCC Secretariat</p>	<p>\$1,896,113</p>	<p>Greater utility and credibility of the IPCC Special Report among users owing to the better incorporation of developing country expertise, knowledge, experience, and perspectives on disaster risk reduction; the availability of a much larger body of quality literature and information beyond that of the traditional academic literature; a legacy of improved information is available for disaster risk reduction action globally and for upcoming major IPCC Fifth Assessment Report and UNISDR 2011 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction</p>
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<p>2.2 Guidance Notes developed for Governments and for inclusion in the UNISDR 2011 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction</p>	<p>Targeted guidance prepared for key issues such as risk reduction measures for adapting to climate change in sectors (health, agriculture, water resource management, ecosystems management, infrastructure and spatial planning), for harmonizing national disaster reduction plans and policies with those for climate change adaptation, development and poverty reduction; development of revised Adaptation Policy Framework (UNDP's standard capacity building programme in Climate Change Adaptation) that includes clear reference to the requisite disaster reduction elements.</p>		<p>\$294,930</p>	<p>Greater clarity in how to apply risk reduction measures for adaptation in national and sectoral planning: quality of climate change adaptation plans and policies improved and strengthened through attention to DRR in policy making processes (particularly those that are informed by the APF).</p>
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<p>2.3 Disaster risk reduction support capacities established in regional offices to assist national counterparts in the disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation communities</p>	<p>Facilities available to guide national practitioners to the technical and financial disaster reduction resources required for designing and implementing climate change adaptation programs.</p>	<p>UNISDR, TBD- UNDP, WMO, OCHA and system partners</p>	<p>\$3,265,700</p>	<p>Improved efficiency in developing climate change adaptation programmes through improved access to foundational materials for disaster risk reduction thereby reducing the need to for some elements of technical assistance to national DRR and Climate change adaptation practitioners.</p>
<p>2.4 Communication enhanced and tools developed</p>	<p>New communications products developed to convey the experience and insights of scientists, policy makers, practitioners and community members working in the field of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.</p>	<p>UNISDR, IPCC, S and T committee</p>	<p>\$132,210</p>	<p>Communications from the UNISDR and system partners strengthened through the inclusion of readily available quotes and facts to support their advocacy efforts</p>
<p>3.1 Global and regional partnerships developed</p>	<p>Space created for engaging partners (globally and regionally) to share experiences, assess progress, identify strategic priorities and form new partnerships for addressing gaps.</p>	<p>ISDR System partners</p>	<p>\$60,227</p>	<p>New opportunities created for more strategic decisions regarding geographic an thematic priorities for capacity building, advocacy and knowledge production in disaster risk reduction for climate change adaptation.</p>

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<p>3.2 Global initiatives for DRR in Adaptation mapped and monitored</p>	<p>Accessible tool developed for identifying who's doing what, where to reduce disaster in a changing climate and tracking the impact of major initiatives.</p>	<p>UNISDR, System partners and Regional Commissions</p>	<p>\$290,410</p>	<p>Greater coherence among ISDR system partners achieved through reduced duplication of efforts and improved reporting on outcomes.</p>
<p>3.3 Framework for tracking investments in DRR for CC Adaptation developed</p>	<p>Accessible tool developed for identifying financial investments in disaster risk reduction for climate change adaptation.</p>	<p>UNISDR, system partners and OECD</p>	<p>\$281,737</p>	<p>Donors and national governments better able to track investments in disaster risk reduction and to link these to the value of disaster reduction outcomes</p>
<p>4.1 Four (4) Sub-regional and selected national assessments of risk information and capacities for climate-information applications</p>	<p>Necessary information on hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities for risk reduction available at sub-regional and national scale (particularly in four sub-regions - Africa, Arab Region, Latin America and South or Southeast Asia) to better assist planning and policy making at sub-regional and national levels; improved capacity of national and regional technical institutions to assess risk and risk reduction capacities.</p>	<p>UNISDR, WMO, World Bank, UNDP</p>	<p>\$2,069,030</p>	<p>Roadmaps and action plans for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation improved through reference to appropriately scaled data on climate related risks and capacities; technical skills for producing downscaled assessments and related policy applications improved in national technical institutions.</p>

4.2 Four (4) pilot national action plans for disaster risk reduction climate change adaptation developed	National action plans integrating disaster risk reduction and wider climate change adaptation concerns developed in partnership with system partners and building on existing mechanism in at least four countries (one each in Latin America, South East Asia and two in Africa).	UNISDR and ISDR System partners	\$1,062,200	Improved efficiency in the allocation of national international resources to disaster risk reduction though alignment with nationally agreed priorities.
<i>Sub-total Programme Activity</i>			USD 10,786,527	
Programme Support Cost (13%)			USD 1,402,248.51	
<b>TOTAL</b>			USD 12,188,775.51	

## 8. Implementation Period

2010-2011

## 9. Budget (USD)

Total: USD 12,188,775.51

## 10. Administrative Information

United Nations, Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction  
 International Environment House II,  
 7-9 Chemin de Balexert  
 CH 1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland  
 Tel: (+41 22) 917 8908/8907 - Fax: (+41 22) 917 8964

*Postal Address:*

Palais des Nations,  
 CH-1211 Geneva,  
 Switzerland

[isdr@un.org](mailto:isdr@un.org)

[www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org)

Legal representative of the UNISDR Secretariat

Margareta Wahlström

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction

Officer(s) responsible for the Action within the UNISDR Secretariat

Andrew Maskrey

Head, Monitoring, Assessment and Practices

Email: [maskrey@un.org](mailto:maskrey@un.org) and telephone: +41 22 917 89 09

Glenn Dolcemascolo

Head, Partnership and Networks

Email: [dolcemascolo@un.org](mailto:dolcemascolo@un.org) and telephone: +41 22 917 89 05

Marc Gordon,

Head, External and Donor Relations

Email: [gordon6@un.org](mailto:gordon6@un.org) and Telephone: +41 22 917 89 12