

## Project Proposal

H F A



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**            **Strengthening Regional Platforms' Engagement in support of Countries' Resilience to Disasters**

**Amount Requested**        **USD 1,333,800**

**Implementation Period**    **2010 – 2011 Biennium**

**Impact**            **Mainstreamed DRR policies with clear allocated budget at regional, national and local levels with safer schools, hospitals and infrastructure building codes enforced for disaster resilient nations and communities**

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat

### Executive Summary of the Action

*Title:* Strengthening Regional Platforms' Engagement in support of Countries' Resilience to Disasters

*Location / Geographic Focus*

- Asia & Pacific
- The Americas
- Africa
- The Arab States
- Europe & Central Asia

(See Draft Calendar of key regional meetings in Annex 1).

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

### *Objectives*

Strengthen Regional Platforms' engagement in support of national policies, action plans and investments on disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and safer schools and hospitals through:

- A direct engagement of Heads of State and relevant Ministers through Regional Ministerial Events to support accelerated implementation of the Hyogo Framework of Action and its integration with adaptation to climate change;
- Increased national budgetary investments for building safer schools, hospitals and decentralizing finances to cities at risk, ensuring planning of critical infrastructure is climate resilient (working with parliamentarians and national HFA focal points);
- Regional disaster risk reduction plans duly developed with mutually agreed measurable targets, principally with regional inter-governmental organizations such as the African Union and ASEAN.
- Progress report findings self-assessed amongst the countries themselves, experiences and challenges shared and joint and collaborative actions promoted amongst governments and ISDR system partners to achieve the HFA indicators.
- Effective regional networks and partnerships for the sharing of data on cross border risks like floods in shared river basins or Glacial Lake outburst Floods in the Himalayas and the Andes.

*Financial Summary (USD)*

**Overall estimated cost: USD 1,333,800**

The organization of five Regional Platforms and related meetings in the above-mentioned regions (see 3.2) is estimated up to Euros 1,800,000, with slight variations based on the scale and magnitude of activities in the region, as follows:

Asia Pacific - USD 333,450

Africa – USD 333,450

Americas – USD 333,450

Arab States – USD 166,725

Europe and Central Asia – USD 166,725

Funding source: Un-earmarked funds

*UNISDR contribution to the project*

UNISDR Contribution to supporting Regional Platforms' organization:

USD 400,000



## 2. CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION

### National / Regional or Thematic Context

Since the first session of the Global Platform in 2007 there has been a dramatic increase in political will in all regions to address disaster risk, across both governments and civil society. The energy and leadership in disaster risk reduction are now increasingly coming from the South.

UNISDR supports disaster risk reduction efforts through its network of five Regional Offices: Bangkok, (Asia Pacific) Cairo, (Arab States) Panama, (Americas) Nairobi (Africa) and Geneva (Europe with a sub-office in Dushanbe for Central Asia).

The Regional Offices of UNISDR are contributing to reducing loss of life and livelihoods resulting from disasters by the following means:

- Promoting coherent action in disaster risk reduction at national and regional levels
- Monitoring, reporting and guiding the Hyogo Framework for Action implementation at the national and regional levels;
- Providing technical assistance to countries including standards setting for disaster risk reduction, and the exchange of information and lessons learned in line with UNISDR goals and priorities.

Regional Platforms are partnerships based on networks of regional intergovernmental organizations, national governments and related Donor Agencies, disaster management authorities, civil society, academics, and regional centers of excellence.

The regional offices promote disaster risk reduction as a means of adapting to climate change along with supporting national governments to develop strategic national action plans for reducing risk, particularly promoting safer cities, and building safer schools and hospitals.

Following the Second Session of the Global Platform in 2009, ISDR system partners along with many national governments have launched the Alliance of Local Government Authorities to promote disaster safe cities through a Global Urban Risk Reduction Campaign.

### Added value of the Action

The strengthening of Regional Platforms will ensure a powerful, coherent and well coordinated multi-stakeholder partnership in achieving effective disaster risk reduction implementation at the regional and national levels, in particular through increased investments for integrated disaster risk reduction and

climate change adaptation as well as safer schools and hospitals strategies. The definition of a joint work programme to achieve UNISDR strategic objectives shall enhance regional partners' ownership of DRR initiatives implementation and enhance Donors' buy-in and investments in specific segments of the plan. Finally, regional platforms are expected to become powerful regional bodies providing technical guidance and policy through the sharing of cross-country experiences and incentives through progress comparisons, towards the development of national DRR strategies and legislations and the empowerment of key sub-regional and local actors in disaster risk reduction. This process will further influence the Global Platforms discussions, through the sharing of key policy achievements and good practices from the regions.

The Hyogo Framework for Action and the ISDR System

Strategic Goal(s) of the HFA

1	2	3
X	X	X

Priority(ies) for Action of the HFA

1	2	3	4	5
X	-	X	X	-

Biennial Work Plan 2010-2011 of the ISDR Secretariat

Strategic Objective 1 – Disaster risk reduction accepted and applied for climate change adaptation

**Common Outcomes**

1. Enhanced political commitment and national investment in climate risk reduction
2. Improved availability 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

**Output from Regional Platforms and related meetings**

1. Political consensus and action plans developed in the context of Regional Platforms integrating disaster risk reduction with climate change adaptation and related investments.
2. Regional Platforms' achievements on DRR and CCA and related good practices duly reflected as part of Global Platforms' agenda,
3. Help desk functions established in regional offices to link up with national HFA and CCA focal points

Strategic Objective 2: Measurable reduction of disaster losses achieved through optimal investments in DRR

**Common Outcomes**

1. Investment decisions across development sectors are disaster risk sensitive
2. International and national investments for DRR increased to 1% from development, 10% humanitarian, 10% reconstruction funds

**Output from Regional Platforms and related meetings**

1. Regional Platforms to recommend % of GDP allocated to DRR;
2. Economic study disseminated in regions and findings reflected in x number of high-level statements Global Platform agreement to implement the recommendations of the regional platforms
3. Training packages for UN country teams available, to motivate a broader integration of DRR as part of UNDAF and Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSs)
4. HFA progress reports indicate national investments in DRR;

**Strategic Objective 3: Schools and hospitals are safe from disaster risks**

**Common Outcomes**

1. New schools and hospitals in disaster prone areas are complying with safety standards and building codes
2. Safety of existing education and health facilities is assessed, and concrete action plans for safer schools and hospitals developed and implemented
3. Local authorities are committed to disaster risk reduction and programmes for safer schools and hospitals

**Expected outputs from Regional Platforms and Parliamentary initiatives**

1. Safer city campaign and One Million Safe Schools and Hospitals Pledging Initiative launched at the regional level and supported by national and local governments targeting safe schools and hospitals.
2. Agreements reached with regional/national association of municipalities or local governments to support the campaign and pledging initiative in a number of cities.
3. Regional Platforms and National platforms promote safe schools and hospitals as part of their workplans towards reaching Global Platform's commitments in this respect.
4. Parliamentarians and parliamentarian networks actively promote safer schools and hospitals in every region
5. Pledging system in place to sign up for safe schools (and disaster resilient hospitals and cities)

Links to the ISDR System and the 2010-2011 ISDR System Joint Work Programme

Regional Platforms' activities will support UNISDR's strategic objectives by promoting an integrated approach between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, fostering regional and national investment in disaster risk reduction and mobilizing Governments from each region in assessing and ensuring safer schools and hospitals.

UNISDR system partners have a major role to play in supporting the regional platforms' work, in particular in contributing to the decision-making process relating to the definition of Regional Platform's workplan and its implementation and in placing disaster risk reduction as a priority on their respective organization's agenda.

In particular, regional partners will support regional resource mobilization processes in support of the development of a global fund for DRR. UNISDR system partners will finally ensure due recognition and contribution of regional good practices and achievements to global workplan implementation and seek the Management Oversight Board (MOB)'s assistance to address major regional concerns and challenges.



### 3. IMPLEMENTATION OUTLINE

Title: Strengthening Regional Platforms' engagement in support of countries' resilience to disasters

Location / Geographic Focus – five regions: the Americas, Asia Pacific, Africa, Europe and the Arab States (see details in Annex 1)

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

#### Objective(s)

Objective 1: Strengthen Regional Platforms' engagement in support of national policies, action plans and investments on disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and safer schools and hospitals:

#### Outcomes

**Outcome 1** – A direct engagement of Heads of State and relevant Ministers through Regional Ministerial Events to support accelerated implementation of the Hyogo Framework of Action and its integration with adaptation to climate change;

**Outcome 2:** Increased national budgetary investments for building safer schools, hospitals and decentralizing finances to cities at risk, ensuring planning of critical infrastructure is climate resilient (working with parliamentarians and national HFA focal points);

**Outcome 3:** Regional disaster risk reduction plans duly developed with mutually agreed measurable targets, principally with regional inter-governmental organizations such as the African Union and ASEAN.

**Outcome 4:** Progress report findings self-assessed amongst the countries themselves, experiences and challenges shared and joint and collaborative actions promoted amongst governments and ISDR system partners to achieve the HFA indicators.

**Outcome 5:** Effective regional networks and partnerships for the sharing of data on cross border risks like floods in shared river basins or Glacial Lake outburst Floods in the Himalayas and the Andes.

#### Outputs

Output 1, and indicators

a) Output 1: Comprehensive regional and national action plans developed, integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, safer

schools and hospitals and related resource mobilization and investment processes

b) Indicators:

- Five (5) regional workplans / action plans

Output 2, and indicators

- c) Output 2: Regional and national reports produced on HFA implementation and reported through the HFA Monitor
- d) Indicators: Five (5) regional reports and at least thirty (30) national reports produced per region

Stakeholders and Beneficiaries

All Regional Platforms members will be major actors in implementing the Regional Platform's workplan, in support of regional but also national and local action. As such, they will represent major stakeholders in the whole process. National Governments, UN Country Teams, Parliamentarians, National Platforms, key national/ regional media networks, NGOs and Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) - which compose regional platforms - will be direct beneficiaries of Regional Platforms' work.

Activities:

Regional Platforms will:

- Hold regular regular working level meetings to define their workplan and identify key activities in support of the implementation of Global Platforms recommendations as well as preparations of future Global Platforms process (coordinate national action such as the compilation of HFA national reports, support the HFA monitor process, organize specific regional discussions and events, contribute to high level discussions etc.)
- Organize Ministerial Conferences and support Parliamentarian meetings to enhance political commitment and related implementation of Regional Platforms' recommendations, to ensure effective advancement on climate change adaptation, investment in disaster risk reduction and safer schools and hospitals, in the context of the 2010-2011 safer cities world campaign.
- Actively contribute to the preparations for the HFA mid-term review and the Global Platform in 2011, through desk reviews, regional analyses on the status of DRR implementation at the regional level, compiling relevant studies from each sub-region, risk assessments and trends etc.
  
- Organize Donor meetings to support the implementation of Regional Platforms' workplan and priorities and strategize to promote effective

Work plan

Each Regional Platform will develop a workplan supporting HFA priorities and UNISDR strategic objectives implementation at the regional, national and local levels.

### *Collaboration and Implementation Partnerships*

#### Collaborating institutions, consortia, individuals, etc.

- All members of Regional Platforms: Governments, Donors, UN Agencies, media representatives, technical and scientific institutions, civil society and the NGO community, local authorities and related regional / national networks, academic institutions, thematic platforms (IRP, Education task Forces, Urban Risk Reduction Task Force, public private partnership network etc.)
- UN Country Teams and UN Resident Coordinators' offices
- Parliamentarians and local authorities

#### Implementing partners

- Regional Partners' members through their regional and national offices.
- At the national level, UN Country Teams, National Platforms, HFA Focal Points and Parliamentarians
- At the local level, NGO community, local authorities and local Governments Alliance.

#### Monitoring and evaluation

The respective UNISDR Team Leader for each *regional office* has responsibility to implement, monitor and report on the activities and expenditure of funds set forth in this Action in line with the ISDR secretariat's established procedures. This includes:

- On-going tracking of the status of activities and outputs and financial expenditure;
- In-depth reviews as part of established secretariat-wide quarterly implementation reviews;
- Annual substantive and financial management reporting;
- And periodic certified financial reports.

A Regional Help Desk function will be set up in each regional office to support HFA Focal Points to track and monitor the progress made in implementing the commitments made at the Global Platform and regional platforms meetings.

The Help Desk Officer will also provide technical assistance in risk assessment and investment plans development.

In depth evaluation may also be undertaken of activities contained in this Action. The decision whether to conduct such evaluation will be undertaken in line with UNISDR processes. It is understood that such an evaluation may take place as part of a broader evaluation of a thematic or regional nature. The Director and the

Deputy Director of the UNISDR provide managerial oversight to ensure compliance with all of the above requirements.

The donor(s) will be kept fully informed of the status of implementation of the activities through regular reporting, based on the above. The donor agrees to accept reports using standard UNISDR reporting formats. The donor may, however, also request further information to supplement the standard UNISDR reporting formats. Prior to making such a request the donor will take into account the importance of controlling costs associated with reporting. Secretariat staff will also make themselves available to discuss the implementation of the activities with the donor.



#### 4. RESOURCES REQUIRED

##### Total resources required (USD)

Overall estimated cost for Regional Platforms and related meetings organization:  
USD 1,333,800

##### UNISDR contribution requested (USD)

UNISDR's contribution to Regional Platforms' processes: approx USD 400,000

##### Budget summary

<b>Estimated Budget for the Action</b>	
<i>Expenditure Type</i>	<i>USD</i>
Grants to implementing partners	222,300
Technical Assistance	222,300
Consultants	148,200
Travel and subsistence	370,500
Workshops, seminars, training exercises, etc.	148,200
Miscellaneous	48,906
<i>Sub-total Programme Activity</i>	<i>1,160,406</i>
Programme Support Cost (13%)	173,394
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,333,800</b>

5. 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 ISDR Secretariat

Praveen Pardeshi  
Head, Regional Offices Support and Coordination Unit (ROSCU)

Marc Gordon,  
Head, External and Donor Relations

**Draft Calendar – Key Regional Meetings – Period: August 2009 - December 2010**

Regional Meeting	Date	Location	Participants/ Partners	Objective	Tentative Cost	Comments
<b>Asia and Pacific</b>						
IAP Working Group	Meeting twice, the first and last quarter of 2010		30-35 agencies	Support the implementation of the activities leading up to the Ministerial Conferences.		
The 4 <sup>th</sup> Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction	25-28th October 2010	Incheon, Korea		<p>The overarching theme of the conference is "Disaster Risk Reduction for Climate Change Adaptation"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Conference declaration of commitment with action plan</li> <li>-Scientific and political recommendations for tangible application</li> <li>-Regional Partnership for Disaster Risk</li> </ul>	USD 500.000	

					Reduction for Climate Change Adaptation		
Pacific Roundtable	CC	October, (tbc) 2010	tbc	134 (Pacific island countries, regional, UN and international agencies, NGOs)	Build political consensus around CCA and DRR at the regional level	n/a	
<b>Africa</b>							
Parliamentarian meeting, West Africa		Early 2010	Senegal	National parliament, Africa parliamentarians Initiative for DRR and CCA And UNISDR	To increase parliamentarians' understanding on their roles and responsibilities for DRR and CCA	25,000 support participants travels and UNISDR mission support to the event	
<b>Arab States</b>							
Arab Regional Platform / Ministerial meeting		January/February 2010 (dates to be confirmed by Sept.)	Jeddah / Saudi Arabia	League of Arab States, Ministers of Environment and other relevant Ministries in the region, regional organizations, NGOs, UN agencies working in the region.	To discuss and approve an Arab Regional Strategy "vision" for DRR, solidify commitment to DRR and enhance partnerships among multiple regional actors for	USD 100,000 (from UNISDR)  USD 500,000 (from Prince Turki bin Nasser/Saudi Arabia)	Prince Turki announced full hosting of the first Regional Platform in KSA, we need to allocate some resources for

				risk reduction in the region.		consultant to help draft the regional strategy and an event manager since Cairo office HR capacity is very limited.
Coordination meeting of Arab Funds	January 2010	TBC	Consortium of several Arab Funds, OPEC fund, Islamic Development Bank	To promote "Investment for a Safer Future" and encourage regional funds integrate DRR in their development assistance.	Cost of travel	
<b>Europe and Central Asia</b>						
Major Hazard Agreement Ministerial Conference -	October 2010.	Moscow, Russian Federation,	Council of Europe EUR-OPA			EUR-OPA should be able in September to confirm precisely the dates.
<b>The Americas</b>						
Santa Marta	April 2010		Details to be provided)			

