



UNISDR

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

Connect and Convince

to reduce disaster impacts

www.unisdr.org

www.preventionweb.net



CONNECT AND CONVINCe TO REDUCE DISASTER IMPACTS



WHO WE ARE ?

The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) is a strategic framework adopted by United Nations Member States in 2000. The ISDR guides and coordinates the efforts of a wide range of partners to achieve a substantive reduction in disaster losses. It aims to build resilient nations and communities as an essential condition for sustainable development.

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) is the secretariat of the International Strategy of Disaster Reduction and disaster risk reduction community. The disaster risk reduction community comprises numerous organizations, States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, financial institutions, technical bodies and civil society, which work together and share information to reduce disaster risk.

UNISDR serves as the focal point for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) – a ten year plan of action adopted in 2005 by 168 governments to protect lives and livelihoods against disasters.

WHAT WE DO ?

We coordinate

international efforts in disaster risk reduction and guide, monitor as well as report regularly on progress of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action. We organize a biennial Global Platform on disaster risk reduction with leaders and decision makers to advance risk reduction policies and support the establishment of regional, national and thematic platforms.

We campaign and advocate

to create global awareness of disaster risk reduction benefits and empower people to reduce their vulnerability to hazards. Our current campaigns focus on safer schools and hospitals as well as resilient cities.

We encourage

for greater investments in risk reduction actions to protect people's lives and assets including climate change adaptation, more education on DRR and increased participation of men and women in the decision making process.

We inform and connect

people by providing practical services and tools such as the risk reduction website PreventionWeb, publications on good practices, country profiles and the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction which is an authoritative analysis of global disaster risks and trends.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED *If you are...*

A President or Government Representative: Prioritize risk reduction in your vulnerable communities; support local government efforts; review your policies and ensure there are funds for risk reduction programmes and humanitarian as well as disaster recovery projects in national budgets; include risk reduction in national development plans along with climate change adaptation.

A Mayor or Local Government Official: Review risks, identify risks, inform and sensitize your communities about risk and guide national governments in the creation of resilient communities.

A Teacher, Parent, Student, Doctor, Nurse, Hospital or Clinic Staff: Ask for safe schools, hospitals, clinics and health centres.

A practitioner or expert:

A Banker: Support and offer incentives to companies who are constructing structures that are disaster resilient.

A Risk Reduction Expert or a practitioner or academic: Share your knowledge, join community networks and contribute your expertise to information resources to reduce disaster risk.

A Private Sector Representative: become actively involved in disaster risk reduction by providing your valuable expertise, technology and financial support.

A Citizen: learn about your risks, ask for resilient communities, prevent risk and disasters – make informed choices.

A Civil Society Organization or Non Governmental Organization: use you close connection to communities to raise awareness about the good sense of disaster risk reduction in everyday life.

Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters

The Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) is the key instrument and global blueprint for implementing disaster risk reduction. Its overarching goal is to build the resilience of nations and communities to disasters by achieving substantive reduction of disaster losses by 2015.

The HFA sets out five priorities for action:

- Make disaster risk reduction a priority
- Know the risks and take action
- Build understanding and awareness
- Reduce risks
- Be prepared and ready to act