**Concept note**

**Workshop on Community action for disaster resilience and climate change adaptation**

**10 October 2012**

***Organized by European Commission, DG Climate Action and United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Europe Office***

Resilience to disasters and climate adaptation are increasingly important concerns of urban development policies. The implementation of development policies on the local level is crucial for achieving effective climate adaptation measures and managing new climate risks in urban settings.

Disasters risk has become an acute and increasing urban problem. Poorly planned urban environment, weak urban governance, old and ageing and fragile physical infrastructures and gaps in basic services together with a rapid urban growth have increased pressure on the urban environment and thus also exposure to disaster risk. Cities today are major engines of economic opportunity, education and cultural life. The need for maintenance and upkeep of these cities are crucial safety measures for their citizens.

In 2010 the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) launched the campaign “Making Cities Resilient- My City is Getting Ready!” with the objective to enroll city leaders, local government and city councils as an integral and active part of building the resilience of their urban communities. The campaign objective promotes awareness among citizens of the benefits of public investment in reducing disaster risk and stimulates sharing of experiences and draw lessons.

In 2012 the European Commission, DG Climate Action, launched an initiative called “Adaptation Strategies for EU Cities” to provide capacity building and assistance for European cities in developing and implementing an adaptation strategy.

Based on the UNISDR’s Campaign “Making Cities Resilient – My City is Getting Ready!” and the European Commission, DG Climate Action’s initiative “Adaptation Strategies for EU cities”, the workshop will discuss challenges and potentials arising from involving local communities in developing and implementing local disaster risk reduction and adaptation measures.

By the end of the workshop, experiences from the local community in developing and implementing disaster risk reduction measures in a changing climate, will have been shared and success factors identified.

**Workshop on Community action for disaster resilience and climate change adaptation**

**Agenda 10 October 09.00-10.45**

[**Committee of the Regions, Jacques Delors, Room 53**](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/opendays/od2005/fo/ViewLocation.do?doAction=viewLocation&id=1e2753d93646563901377a27a4380131&conferenceId=1e2753d93646563901370c9df7d00001)

09.00 – 09.10 Introduction, Ms. Paola Albrito, Head UNISDR Regional Office for Europe / Ms. Rosario Bento Pais, Head of Unit, DG CLIMA, Adaptation to Climate Change Unit

09.10 – 09.30 *Community action in developing and implementing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation*

*The City of Ancona*, Mr. Marco Cardinaletti, Sustainable Development Manager, Environmental and EU Program Sector

*The City of Nice*, Mr. Benoit Kandel, First Deputy Mayor of Nice, Ms. Sylvia Gahlin, Technical Expert

09.30 – 09.50 Discussion

09.50 - 10.10 *Raising awareness towards risks and building resilience in a changing climate*

*The City of Copenhagen*, Ms. Lykke Leonardsen, Head of Strategy, Center for Park and Nature

*AlpS -* Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Technologies, City of Lienz, Province of Tyrol, Mr. Andreas Koler, Chief Risk Analyst

10.10 - 10.30 Discussions

10.15-10.30 *ICLEI*, Mr. Holger Robrecht, Director, Sustainability Management Division

*Basilicata Region*, Mr. Giuseppe Guarino, Head of Training, Gruppo Lucano, Assocation of the Italian National Civil Protection

10.30-10.45 Summary of discussions, Chair

* Chair: Ms. Paola Albrito, Head UNISDR Regional Office for Europe
* Ms Rosario Bento Pais, Head of Unit, DG CLIMA, Adaptation to Climate Change Unit
* Mr. Giuseppe Guarino, Head of Training, Gruppo Lucano - Association of Italian Civil Protection
* Mr. Benoit Kandel, First Deputy Mayor of Nice, Ms. Sylvia Gahlin, Technical Expert, Nice, France
* Mr. Holger Robrecht, Director, Sustainability Management, ICLEI Europe
* Ms. Lykke Leonardsen, Head of Strategy, Copenhagen, Denmark
* Mr. Marco Cardinaletti, Programme Manager, Ancona, Italy
* Mr. Andreas Koler, Chief Risk Analyst, AlpS - Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Technologies, City of Lienz, Province of Tyrol, Austria