

# International art contest for young people aged 16 and under

Learning from today's disasters for tomorrow's hazards  
2004 World Disaster Reduction Campaign



The theme of this year's World Disaster Reduction Campaign is "learning".

The Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR) is launching an international art contest - aimed at both schools and communities - for young people aged 16 and under, in the lead up to the **World Conference on Disaster Reduction** to be held 18-22 January 2005 in Kobe, Hyogo (Japan).

The best 12 pictures that illustrate what measures can be taken to reduce risk and vulnerability to disasters will be selected for publication in a UN/ISDR 2005 calendar that will be disseminated to over 5,000 participants of the World Conference and all around the world.

In addition, the pictures will be framed and exhibited on-site at the World Conference.

## Deadline:

All pictures should be submitted by 20 October 2004 to:

UN/ISDR  
Attention: Nicole Rencoret  
Office A.579  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
isdr@un.org

## Contest rules:

1. Submissions size: between 21x 30 cm and 30 x 42 cm (horizontal).
2. Submissions electronic format: scanned images in PDF, TIF or JPG format (300 dpi or higher resolution) on a CD, clearly marked outside with name and country.
3. Submissions must be accompanied by the entry form (see page 4 or at [www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org)).
4. Entrants may submit as many pictures as they like.
5. Entrants whose work is selected for the calendar will be notified in late 2004, and will receive 10 calendars free of charge in early 2005.
6. The best 12 pictures for the calendar will be decided upon by the UN/ISDR and Entico. Decisions made by the judges are final.
7. UN/ISDR is not liable for any late, misrouted, lost or damaged entries.
8. The entrant holds the copyright to the pictures submitted, but UN/ISDR retains the unlimited right to use submitted pictures for non-profit public information purposes at no cost, for which the entrant will be credited.
9. Pictures submitted to the contest are not returnable.

*The international art contest and 2005 calendar is a collaborative effort between UN/ISDR, the global multimedia organization Entico Corporation Ltd in addition to sponsors. Note: Employees and their immediate family members of these organizations are not eligible to participate in the art contest.*



# Learning from today's disasters for tomorrow's hazards

## 2004 World Disaster Reduction Campaign

**Learning to live with the risks** that hazards pose to communities is one of the key ways to protect people and property from the disastrous impacts of earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and volcanoes. Learning can take place through formal education such as in schools and universities, or informal groups and networks such as community meetings and advocacy activities.

### Fostering a culture of prevention from a young age

One of the best times to instil learning about the risks and vulnerabilities associated with hazards is at an early age. Young people represent the future; if we are to ensure that they live in disaster-resilient societies, they need to be aware of those hazards that threaten them, their families and their friends, and be familiar with what can be done to reduce their negative consequences.

As young people grow and experience life, they absorb much about the environment in which they live, often generating interest in what part they play in ensuring a sustainable future for themselves, their children, and their children's children. Their involvement in disaster reduction is therefore essential to increase the long-term resilience of communities.

*"Everybody, including children and elderly people, should know about earthquakes. Particularly, school children should know about how to survive from earthquakes.  
I think that it is our right to know about earthquakes. This is because when an earthquake comes everybody including our parents, teachers will try to save their own lives. At that time they may not take care of us. So we ourselves need to know what to do during earthquakes."*

**Sony, school girl in Kathmandu (Nepal)**

### Community empowerment through learning

Public awareness and understanding are key components in the achievement of disaster risk reduction. Learning about how to minimise risk and vulnerability to disasters encourages people to take the initiative to prevent, mitigate and prepare for a potential disaster.

When young people learn about disaster reduction at school, they are in the powerful position of sharing what they are taught in class with their families and friends. As a result, the entire community can learn and benefit from the knowledge of how they can best reduce disaster impacts, potentially saving lives and property.

### What can you do to participate in the 2004 World Disaster Reduction Campaign?

In 2004 the International Day for Disaster Reduction will be commemorated on *Wednesday 13 October*.

There are numerous ways to spread the word about the importance of disaster reduction. Learning about what you can do to reduce risk and vulnerability to disasters can be fun – whether it takes place in the classroom, during community gatherings or at home. The International Day for Disaster Reduction is the ideal opportunity to organize events to raise public awareness and share knowledge.

Here are some ideas of what you can do:

- Organize roundtable of local leaders reflecting on lessons learned from past disasters
- Hold a community festival that allows people to share "good practices" in disaster reduction
- Write an article for a local newspaper on imminent hazards and what can be done to prepare for them

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Other ways to participate in the global movement for disaster risk reduction include the translation/adaptation of the educational kit "Let's learn to prevent disasters!" and Riskland game as well as participation in the UN/ISDR international art contest described in this brochure.

*The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) aims at increasing public awareness to understand risk, vulnerability and disaster reduction globally. In order to achieve this, the ISDR unites international agencies, non-governmental organizations, government representatives, local decision makers, scientists, educators and local communities to work together; in order to generate more widespread commitment to and better understanding of disaster reduction.*

Organized by the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), the annual World Disaster Reduction Campaign is an opportunity for these actors to interact and bring more people to learn about disaster risk reduction. The Campaign builds momentum and culminates in the International Day for Disaster Reduction, whereby it is celebrated internationally by Governments, global organizations, regional institutions and local communities alike.

### Let's learn to prevent disasters! educational kit – Riskland game

UN/ISDR and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have together produced an educational kit for children called "Let's learn to prevent disasters!". It includes the board game "Riskland" whereby players learn about what they can do to reduce disaster impacts by answering questions and advancing along the board's winding path. The kit and game may be adapted according to the different hazards communities face,



and translated into multiple languages. To date, the kit is available in English, Haitian, Creole, Maya Kackchiquel, Nepali, Portuguese and Spanish, with translations into over 15 others currently underway.

To receive a kit (in English) and CD ROM of the artwork and text for use in adaptation and translation, please contact [isdr@un.org](mailto:isdr@un.org)

More information on the 2004 World Disaster Reduction Campaign including weblinks to on-line children's educational resources such as games, quizzes and downloads are available at [www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org)

# International art contest for young people aged 16 and under

## Entry form

Please print or type

Entrant name:

Entrant age:

Address:

City:

Postcode:

Country:

Telephone:

Email:

Entrant school name:

School address:

City:

Postcode:

Country:

Telephone:

Email:

Website:

Subject and short explanation of picture:

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