

**PROGRAMME of Panel Cluster 3:
KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATION AND EDUCATION:
BUILDING A CULTURE OF SAFETY AND RESILIENCE**

Date: 19th January 2005

Time: 12:00-14:00

Venue: Kairaku Room of the Portpia Hotel

Education for creating a culture of disaster resilience is an interactive process of mutual learning among people and institutions. It encompasses far more than formal education at schools and universities, and affects all aspects of life through the concerted effort to overcome universal barriers of ignorance, apathy, disciplinary boundaries and lack of political will present in communities. Education also involves the enhancement and use of indigenous knowledge for protecting people, habitat, livelihoods, and cultural heritage from natural hazards. Educational practices can be conducted through direct learning, information technology, staff training, electronic and print media and other innovative actions to facilitate the management and transfer of knowledge and information to citizens, professionals, organizations, community stakeholders and policymakers.

Knowledge, innovation and education are inter-related issues that are at their most effective when linked to community needs. Knowledge and behavioural changes for implementing risk reduction activities at the individual, household, community and policy levels should be the ultimate target, keeping in mind that building a culture of safety and resilience requires time, effort, resources and continued cooperation and understanding amongst all actors. This calls for the application of the following four principles:

1. Promote knowledge and behavioural change on disaster risk;
2. Strengthen information and dissemination on disaster risk and safety actions;
3. Empower capacity building of at-risk and vulnerable communities; and
4. Reinforce partnerships and cooperation on disaster risk reduction policy and strategy.

These principles will be addressed at the WCDR under Thematic Cluster 3, focusing on four themes:

- **Education;**
- **Increased Knowledge base**
- **Information and public awareness, and**
- **Community empowerment**

Under each theme, a selection of focus areas will be highlighted.

(a) Education:

- Formal and informal learning
- Incorporate disaster risk reduction into curricula of all education processes
- Incorporate disaster and risk education in local and national level policies
- Facilitate civil society participation in learning processes on disaster reduction

(b) Increased Knowledge Base:

- Information management and exchange
- Multi-dimensional/cross-sectoral cooperation
- Field-based knowledge development and implementation oriented research policies
- Includes research, academic and scientific agendas as well as emphasizing the importance of creating linkages

(c) Information and Public Awareness:

- Strategies and joint safety messages managed with professional, public and private resources and abilities
- Involve media, civil society, cultural heritage and the disaster reduction community

- Access, dissemination and use of disaster reduction information and knowledge
- Use of specific data and tools to promote awareness and action on risk reduction
- Sharing and cross-application of lessons of disaster experiences

(d) Community Empowerment:

- Capacity building
- Implementing activities at community level through learning experiences
- Community resilience by building on existing knowledge and enriching the skills and resources present in the community
- Understanding, spreading knowledge on and increasing coping mechanisms
- Awareness-raising through existing formal and informal learning institutions and programmes

Programme of the Panel

Chair: Alberto Maturana, Director of the Office for Emergency Management (ONEMI), Chile

Rapporteur: Rajib Shaw, Kyoto University

12:00-12:10: Opening Remarks by the Chair and

- *Koïchiro Matsuura*, Director-General of UNESCO

12:10-12:20: TOPIC Education: Formal & informal (incorporation of disaster risk reduction into curricula at all levels of education, facilitate civil society participation in learning processes on disaster reduction)

- Education for effective disaster reduction: part of school culture and curricula: *Honorable Purna Bahadur Khadka* Minister of Home, His Majesty's Government of Nepal

12:20-12:50 TOPIC Knowledge: information management and exchange, international cooperation multi-dimensional/cross sector, including research, academic and scientific agenda and importance of linkage

- **12:20-12:40** Development learning: role of IT in knowledge management: *Yukio Yoshimura*, Vice President, The World Bank (*with Video-conference link to Vietnam, Indonesia and Sri Lanka*)
- **12:40-12:50** Higher education and research agenda for implementation: *Hiroyuki Kameda*, Professor Emeritus of Kyoto University, Visiting Researcher of National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED)

12:50-13:00 TOPIC Information and Public Awareness: strategies managed with professional, public and private resources and abilities (including media, civil societies, cultural heritage, dissemination and use of disaster reduction information and experience):

- Role of pro-active community education and media in to promote a culture of disaster reduction: *Gloria Bratchi*, Argentina

13:00-13:20 TOPIC Community Empowerment: capacity building. Community resilience by building on knowledge, skills and resources already contained within the community, spreading knowledge and awareness through existing formal or informal learning institutions and programmes

- **13:00-13:10** Community resilience and capacity development: *Eva von Oelreich*, IFRC
- **13:10-13:20** Children's right to safety culture: psychological aspects and perception, bottom-up approaches, people oriented: *Everett Ressler*, UNICEF

13:20-13:30 Video from Chile (*From Yokohama to Kobe- a huge challenge... accomplished!*)

13:30-13:55 Questions and Answers (from floor, panelists and on-line through GDLN)

13:55-14:00 Summary