



Third International Conference on Early Warning
27-29 March 2006, Bonn, Germany

PRESS RELEASE

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EWC III Organisers Launch Call for Early Warning Projects

The organisers of the Third International Conference on Early Warning (EWC III) to be held in Bonn, Germany, from 27 to 29 March 2006 (ISDR Press Release of 26 July refers) are calling for submission of early warning projects in disaster-prone areas around the world. True to the conference motto '*from concept to action*' it is the declared goal of the EWC III to act as a catalyst for the conceptualisation, funding and implementation of concrete early warning projects, with a view to putting into practice the *Hyogo Framework for Action* agreed at the *World Conference on Disaster Reduction* in Kobe in January 2005. Hence, this is considered a key opportunity for governmental and non-governmental agencies to showcase their planned activities, mobilise resources and exchange ideas and experiences with relevant interlocutors.

Detailed guidelines and criteria for submission of projects are presently being distributed through a number of channels to governments, the scientific community, the UN system and others in ISDR's wide network of partners, in an effort to generate maximum response. The EWC III organisers expect incoming proposals to include new projects, projects under development or the adaptation of existing projects to other situations. They may be sent in by government bodies, non-governmental organisations, scientific institutions and private agencies. All project proposals should be accompanied by a written endorsement from a relevant government department or agency. An inter-agency team of scientists and practitioners, led by the ISDR's Early Warning Platform, will select deserving projects based on their impact, feasibility, urgency, sustainability, efficiency, cost effectiveness and regional balance. A limited number of projects will be presented at the EWC III plenary in March 2006, but all promising proposals will be collated in a portfolio of projects to be shared with potential donors.

The deadline for submission is 31 October 2005, and proposals should be addressed to the secretariat of EWC III, UN/ISDR, Palais des Nations (room A.276-278), CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, or by email to ewc3@un.org. For updated information on the conference, please visit <http://www.ewc3.org>.

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