



The 2006-2007 UN/ISDR World Disaster Reduction Campaign: A Brief Overview

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www.unisdr.org/iddr-2007

Background



- 1. Increased impact of disasters**
- 2. 2005 World Conference on Disaster Reduction**
- 3. Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015**
- 4. IATF/DR decision on the World Campaign:**
 - Disaster resilient schools (2006-2007)**
 - Hospitals safe from disasters (2008-2009)**
 - Urban risk reduction (2010-2011)**
 - Home safe from disasters (2012-2013)**
 - Protecting the environment from disasters (2014-2015)**



Objectives

- 1. Promote the integration of DRR education into school curricula in countries vulnerable to natural hazards**
- 2. Promote the safe construction and retrofitting of school buildings to withstand natural hazards**



Key Message

***“Disaster Risk Reduction
Begins at School”***



Expectations

- Increase awareness of the importance of school safety and DRR education in school
- Encourage local and national governments to invest more in safer school facilities and DRR education
- Promote good practices to mobilize more attention to and actions in school safety and DRR education

Results

- 55 countries participated actively in the World Disaster Reduction Campaign through awareness raising activities
- 22 other countries achieved highly visible success in school-oriented DRR initiatives
- 96 good practices were received
- 38 good practices selected for new publication entitled “*Towards a Culture of Prevention: Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School - Good Practices and Lessons Learned*”
- World campaign reinforces ongoing activities on DRR & Education in many countries



In Africa



- 14 countries carried out DRR-related activities on the International Day for Disaster Reduction in 2006
- Seven countries have taken steps toward mainstreaming DRR into school curricula, including developing DRR textbooks, displaying DRR messages on school stationery and organizing school competitions or disaster preparedness drills (*Burundi, Cape Verde, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania*)
- Madagascar has integrated DRR into school curricula

In the Americas



- 18 countries raised awareness among school communities and developed school protection plans (*Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, USA, Venezuela*)
- Costa Rica and Peru have integrated DRR into school curricula
- Two regional DIPECHO (Disaster Preparedness, European Community Humanitarian Office) projects have helped strengthen local capacities of Education Ministries and Civil Protection Departments, including in *Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras and Panama*

In Asia & the Pacific



- 17 countries organized activities related to the theme of the Campaign (*Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Nepal, Niue, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tuvalu, Viet Nam*)
- DRR initiatives targeting school communities are under way *in countries such as Iran, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines and Turkey.*
- Iran, 2006: All primary, secondary and high schools (over 130,000 schools) took part in “8th National Drill” as part of its “Annual School Earthquake & Safety Initiative”. Over 14 million school students participated.



- In Nepal, DRR-trained school students have become “risk reduction ambassadors”
- In India, a single programme helped some 100,000 students and 2,500 teachers in 200 schools develop school disaster management plans
- Large number of school safety initiatives have been carried out in the Region

In Europe



- A number of countries marked the International Day for Disaster Reduction
- DRR initiatives were undertaken *in countries such as Austria, France, Hungary, and Slovenia.*
- Armenia: A single few-month training project helped turn 375 school students, teachers and school principals into qualified DRR trainers
- DRR initiatives targeting school communities are under way *in countries such as Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Spain, France, Czech Republic.*

Thematic Platform

- Published the educational material called “Let Our Children Teach Us”
- Organized over 20 events and participated in 50 conferences to promote Campaign objectives
- Drafted guidelines on school building safety and integration of DRR education into school curricula
- Prepared a digital library of DRR educational material to be used by Education Ministries and practitioners to achieve Campaign objectives





Events

- Asia & Pacific Regional workshop on School Education and DRR in Bangkok, organized by UNESCO, UNCRD, UNICEF and ISDR regional office
- A policy change dialogue: *making your constituencies disaster proof*, co-organized by the Parliamentarian network known as GLOBE and ISDR secretariat in Brussels
- Briefing discussion on Climate change and DRR, organized by OCHA, ISDR and IFRC in New York
- 30 countries informed ISDR that they continue to highlight the campaign theme through various events (**Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Guatemala, Honduras, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Seychelles, Tajikistan, Thailand, USA, Venezuela, and Zambia**)

Summary

- Activities were mostly on raising school awareness at community level, which helped build a culture of prevention
- More countries now taking actions to integrate DRR into school activities, but mainstreaming DRR into school curricula remains a challenge
- School safety is not a reality yet. More work needs to be done to assess vulnerabilities of school facilities, retrofit school buildings, relocate schools from high-risk areas

Conclusion

- The Campaign was a good awareness campaign, but more “political” actions are needed to achieve its two main objectives in the years to come
- Among 168 countries that adopted the HFA, only 55 were actively involved in the Campaign – a rather poor participation
- Schools, like hospitals, are critical infrastructures that need better protection; and children have the right to be educated in safe environments
- UNESCO and UNICEF will continue with the important roles they have played during the Campaign
- Many organizations and Governments will continue the Campaign at local and national levels
- ISDR secretariat will focus the 2008-2009 Campaign on the theme “**Hospitals Safe From Disasters**” together with WHO



A small photograph of a group of diverse children, some in school uniforms, smiling and waving.

Thank you

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