Introducing the Private Sector Working Groups

Five activity-oriented Private Sector Working Groups drive and support private sector engagement in resilience and disaster risk reduction.

Working Groups At-A-Glance

Working Group Overviews

How you can contribute

Overview of Regional Platforms
The UN ISDR Private Sector Partnership (DRR-PSP) and the UN ISDR Private Sector Advisory Group (PSAG) have organized themselves into five activity-oriented Private Sector Working Groups, to drive and support private sector engagement in resilience and disaster risk reduction. It is still possible to jump on the train and contribute with your expertise. Please email your interest to isdr-psp@un.org.

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WG1: Catalyze public-private partnerships

**DESCRIPTION**

WG1 will center its activities on the **Disaster Resiliency Scorecard** (DRS), which will be used by cities to develop multi-year city plans to address gaps in resiliency preparedness. Additional WG targets include a Public/Private (P/P) sector workshop tool kit, and a marketplace to connect suppliers to buyers.

The DRS has already been developed and will be undergoing evolution as it is applied. This process will be based upon test applications of the DRS with a few cities. As the DRS is finalized, application will be shifted to funded projects via the R!SE Initiative. WG1 will also create a toolkit to facilitate discussions between public and private sectors. Through such activities, WG1 will identify and share local best practices and find further applications of the DRS. For 2014-2015, WG1 plans to promote the application of the DRS and to develop the concept of a face-to-face “marketplace.” The upcoming regional platforms and the 2015 WCDRR will be venues to promote the use of DRS and P/P workshops in close partnership with UNISDR’s Making My Cities Resilient Campaign.

**Activities**

1. Develop the DRS for beta testing, make available to public via UNISDR Preventionweb.
2. Further develop RS, RS-based applications and tools, e.g. conduct public/private sector workshop to test concepts and ideas; connect with like-minded initiatives e.g. at Rockefeller Foundation and the World Bank.
3. Beta test RS.
4. Participate and promote RS in UNISDR and other meetings with city focus.
5. Post best practices.
6. Conduct 50 RS evaluations via R!SE.

**Outcomes**

1. Issued press release by UNISDR, AECOM & IBM on DRS; issue Version 1.0 of DRS on Preventionweb by June 2014.
2. Issue tool kit for public / private sector workshops around DRR based upon RS by September 2014.
3. Complete DRS beta testing at 3-5 cities.
5. Post up best practices via Preventionweb.
6. Conduct 50 RS applications by 2016 via R!SE.

**Lead:** Dale Sands, AECOM
WG2: Private Sector Resilience in Sustainability

**DESCRIPTION**

WG2 will focus on gathering knowledge, insights and information related to private sector actions, plans and programs that have a direct effect on business and their contributions to reducing impacts of disasters at the “system” level.

WG2 will examine **resilience in sustainability reporting** as a means of providing visibility to good practices of companies in managing risk and building resilience and to determine if this will be able to provide a fresh view on company risk management to shareholders. This examination will inform voluntary commitments to HFA2 for the private sector, and will explore standardized ways of reporting on how they build and avoid risk.

WG2 may additionally explore if such reporting can be standardized, and if this will fit within the context of HFA2. WG2 may also develop a report that will rank the top 10 companies that does the best sustainability reports to showcase such good practices. This will likely include and highlight the issue of Business continuity planning (BCP) and Business continuity management (BCM).

**Activities**

1. Identify and inventory existing private sector initiatives aligned with DRR/Resilience, especially as captured through current sustainability reporting mechanisms.
2. Showcase those companies demonstrating best practices in the area.
3. Prioritize the initiatives and determine those metrics that are the most needed, common, useful and attainable.
4. Recommend how these initiatives and their metrics might be translated into actions suitable for inclusion in the HFA2 Framework.

**Outcomes**

1. Engage 10 PSP companies that agree to be inventoried. Produce Inventory Report of sustainability metrics and initiatives that align with DRR/Resilience (using the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) as basis).
2. Showcase companies demonstrating best practices.
3. Deliver a prioritization matrix illustrating sustainability initiatives that are most critical & enabling for DRR/R.
4. Collaborate with other WGs & transfer insights & knowledge for inclusion in their work and outcomes as appropriate.
5. Produce a discussion report for the UNISDR with recommendations to be used by other sustainability ratings organizations (TBD) to encourage collection, recognition and crediting of DRR/R in sustainability reporting.

**Lead: Debra AK Johnson, DuPont**
WG3: Start multi-stakeholder partnerships at a Global Level

DESCRIPTION

WG3 will focus on connecting resilience and DRR (R/DRR) to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Climate Agendas by developing clear examples of the linkages, including examples of costs and benefits, and by using these for advocacy in relevant forums. At the moment, the relationship between these three mutually reinforcing agendas, especially on the practical level, is one of the most debated but least understood. Connecting these agendas is also one of UNISDR's main tasks and having the private sector explaining this need adds urgency and leverage to global discussions of these issues.

Many private sector-led multi-stakeholder initiatives already exist and are actively promoting two of the three UN agendas that WG3 wishes to connect, notably the UN Global Compact and WEF on the international level. By building understanding among the private sector belonging to these established organizations on the importance of resilience, WG3 can catalyze a global groundswell of interest towards R/DRR. To enable this work, WG3 will lead the compilation of a briefing kit making the case for linking the three goals, as well as strategizing and leading the advocacy efforts.

Activities

1. Compile briefing kit that ties in R/DRR to SDG and Climate Agenda.
   - hold at least 1 workshop in all five regions.
   - introduce R/DRR and UNISDR agenda at meetings.
   - work with networks.
   - communicate GAR13 message on private sector.
   - Strategize PSP/PSAG representation in UN and UNISDR events with SDG or Climate focus.

Outcomes

1. Compile briefing kit by May 2014
2. Advocacy towards private sector
   - Hold 1 workshop in each region in 2014
   - Introduce UNISDR agenda at WEF meetings
   - Organize groundswell of interest in R/DRR to reach UNGC-HQ; outreach to established disaster interest groups within WEF
3. Advocacy towards non-private sector
   - Advocate at opportunities in 2 above.
   - At UNISDR regional consultations; SIDS conference, UN Climate Summit, CC COP, WCDRR, climate change meetings in 2015, etc.

Lead: Sandra Wu, Kokusai Kogyo
**WG4: Increase business commitment for DRR-PSP 5 Essentials**

**DESCRIPTION**

WG4 is focused on **enabling understanding and collaboration** across both current and prospective UNISDR Private Sector Partnership (DRR-PSP) members, to support the implementation of the *Five Essentials for Business in Disaster Risk Reduction* described in the PSP membership pack.

WG4 will also work to expand the PSP network with regional and broad industry representation by clarifying and communicating the value of participation in the PSP and clarify how this work aligns with other public-private networks, platforms and organizations. In preparation for the 2015 WCDRR, WG4 has been tasked to identify best practice and guidance for strong public-private partnerships.

**What are the Five Essentials?**
The current private sector commitment, ‘The 5 Essentials’, was established in 2011 and includes the following essentials:
1. Promote public-private partnerships for resilience
2. Leverage private sector expertise and strengths
3. Foster a collaborative exchange and dissemination of data
4. Support national and local risk assessment
5. Support the development and strengthening of national and local laws, regulations, policies and programs

**Activities**

1. Connect PSP members with 2014 work groups and UN ISDR regional platforms.
2. Harmonize PSP communications for 2014 Regional Platforms and collaboration events.
3. Identify long term tools and resource needed to support PSP membership expansion and sustainable engagement.
4. Research and develop guidance from SMEs on public private partnerships for the 2015 WCDRR.

**Outcomes**

1. PSP membership given opportunity to engage in UN ISDR activities.
2. Provide inspiring and consistent PSP messages to increase participation and understanding.
3. Tools and resources defined and sourced by PSP members.
4. Paper and session materials for WCDRR created to inform and advance public and private sector engagements in communities and countries.
5. Increase of PSP membership and participation during 2015 WCDRR.

**Lead:** Jack Holt, GSK
WG5: Business contributions to design & implementation of HFA2

DESCRIPTION

WG5 will focus on both developing the substantive inputs to the HFA2 from the global business community, and ensuring that the inter-governmental process negotiating the HFA2 considers these inputs.

For this purpose, WG5 will seek to incorporate the key aspects from all Working Groups, as well as wider inputs that will be gathered during the online and regional consultation processes in 2014. The online consultation process will afford the opportunity to all stakeholders to share their views on the future direction of HFA, the results of which will provide material and guidance in preparation for the regional consultation process in May and June 2014.

Alongside these consultations, WG5 will create subgroups within each industry regarding key approaches to disaster risk reduction and resilience, in order to ensure industry-sector focused content in HFA2. Key sectors that are likely to form part of a subgroup include construction, infrastructure, and engineering; energy, utilities and telecommunications; manufacturing; transport and tourism; agriculture, food and beverage; retail; healthcare; and urban planning and cities.

Activities

1. Engage with all Working Groups to discuss and refine private sector input into HFA2.
2. Promote and coordinate online and regional consultation processes.
3. Hold a dedicated HFA2 Business Sectors meeting to raise widespread awareness of HFA2 and engage with key stakeholders.
4. Produce supporting materials to inform the HFA2 process and promote effective dialogue; maintain an “evolving draft HFA2 input.”
5. Work to achieve effective and accelerated implementation of HFA2 in 2015.

Outcomes

1. Create HFA input draft and invite discussion.
2. Jointly supervise online consultation process with UNISDR. Ensure participation at all regional consultation processes by WG5 members.
3. Organize and hold meeting in London in June 2014, ensuring representation by private, mutual/cooperative, and financial sectors.
4. Transmit a coordinated message from the private sector while incorporating input from different sectors and regions during consultation process.
5. Consider and implement industry-focused applications of HFA2.

Lead: Rowan Douglas, Willis
How you can contribute

**Working Group 1 (WG1): Catalyze public-private partnerships to impact communities**
1. Participate in beta testing scorecard with selected, target cities.
2. Assist to finalize version 1 of the resiliency score card and then to promote use and application.
3. Identify and promote best observed practices to improve DRR.
4. Conduct public-private workshops to develop collaborative approach to improving city DRR.

**Working Group 2 (WG2): Private Sector Resilience in Sustainability**
1. Contribute initiatives and best practices from own organizations.
2. Outreach to a broader audiences, recruiting suppliers, customers and other connections to be involved in data gathering.
3. Analyze input & provide opinions and guidance (initiatives, standards, metrics).
4. Help develop and deliver communications, educational and awareness building programs & materials.
5. Volunteer to represent DRR-PSP in UN and UNISDR events.

**Working Group 3 (WG3): Start multi-stakeholder partnerships at a Global Level**
1. Contribute towards the briefing kit – ideas, examples, and leadership.
2. Tell us what organizations/networks your company belongs to, that you can approach on UNISDR’s behalf.
3. Organize workshops and sessions, volunteer at network meetings to promote UNISDR agenda.
4. Volunteer to represent DRR-PSP in UN and UNISDR events.

**Working Group 4 (WG4): Increase business commitment for DRR-PSP 5 Essentials**
Provide the following resources or subject matter expertise:
1. Presentation, video, or digital communications development.
2. Research and/or experience with sustainable public/private partnerships.
3. Methods and tools for efficient collaboration and knowledge management.

**Working Group 5 (WG5): Business contributions to design and implementation of HFA2**
1. Promote and support the online consultation process.
2. Participate and recruit attendees to the world-wide HFA2 regional consultation process.
3. Help incorporate selected inputs into the new HFA agreement and architecture.
4. Support the development of mechanisms, services and institutions which will enable the optimal implementation of HFA2 provisions within diverse business communities post-2015.

It is still possible to jump on the train and contribute with your expertise: gain visibility for your work and business development. Please email your interest to isdr-psp@un.org.
Regional Platforms

Regional Platforms and Ministerial meetings in 2014 will double as regional consultations of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (HFA2), and having private sector present at these events this year will be critical. While these meetings are primarily about intergovernmental collaboration, they are a great opportunity to connect with other committed stakeholders, and most programmes will also include events for the private sector.

Following is a list of confirmed business events at Regional Platforms and Ministerial meetings (as of April 2014).

### Regional Platform for Africa: 13 – 16 May 2014, Abuja (Nigeria)

- **Informal Round Table: The Future of DRR & Role of Public, Private and Scientific Communities**

### European Business Summit: 14 May, Brussels (Belgium)

The Assembly of European Regions is official partner of the 2014 12th Summit. The theme this year is “Rebuilding a Competitive Europe – The Business Agenda 2014-2019”.

Every year, this Summit attracts more than 1,500 participants from over 60 countries, including European Commissioners, Prime Ministers, high-ranking individuals and about 200 journalists. The European Business Summit will host the discussions on the role of the private sector for disaster risk reduction and resilience for the European region.

Register by sending an email to Stefanie Dannenmann-Di Palma (dannenmann@un.org)
Overview of Regional Platforms

Regional Platform for the Americas: 27-29 May, Guayaquil (Ecuador)

Thursday 29, 09.00-11.30
- The private sector for DRR and resilience

Visit the website & register here.

Regional Platform for the Pacific: 2-4 June, Suva (Fiji)

Business event TBC.

Contact Timothy Wilcox, UNISDR Sub Regional Coordinator Pacific for more information. (timothywilcox.unisdr@gmail.com)

6th Asian Ministerial Conference on DRR: 22-26 June, Bangkok (Thailand)

Sunday 22 June, 09.00-18.00
- Pre-conference meeting: Business for DRR

Wednesday 25 June, 14.00-18.00
- Technical Session: Public Private Partnerships for DRR
- Plenary Session: Private sector and DRR/Resilience Building

Visit the website & register here.

Regional Platform for the Arab States: 14-16 September, Sharm El Sheikh (Egypt)

Business events TBC.