

Note: These concept notes are as received from partner organizations



**Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2016
New Delhi, India
02-05 November 2016**

**Concept Note for Thematic session
Hotel The Ashok, New Delhi**

Event title	Volunteerism and Disaster Risk Reduction (advocacy on effective volunteer engagement and participation in disaster reduction)
Event code	PC-14
Date and Time	Wednesday, 2 nd November, 14.00-17.00
Venue/ Room no.	Friendship Lounge Partition 2, Third Floor
Organizers	Lead: United Nations Volunteers Collaborators: Contact Details* (lead): Name: Narendra Mishra Designation: Programme Officer – UNV Field Unit, India Email id and phone number: Narendra.mishra@undp.org and +91-1146532407, +91-9811699271 Organization name and address: United Nations Volunteers (UNV) 55 Lodi Estate, New Delhi 110003 India
Session Objectives	To enhance recognition, facilitation, networking and promotion of volunteer service on disaster risk reduction. This event aims to highlight the significance of volunteering for disaster risk reduction, and to propose ways to further strengthen national and regional volunteer Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) programmes that contribute to the Sendai Framework for DRR and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
Background and context	The implementation of the Sendai framework would supplement and complement the efforts of nations and communities preventing vulnerability to disasters, increasing preparedness for response and

recovery, strengthening their resilience and promoting risk sensitive sustainable development.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 was adopted at the Third UN World Conference as the successor instrument to the HFA. Building on the HFA achievements and learning, the Sendai Framework puts a focus on preventing new disaster risks, reducing existing disaster risks that also strengthen resilience; and calls various measures to prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability, increase preparedness and recovery.

The issues/ problems it intends to address

UNV and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) - The role of volunteerism in mobilizing and managing volunteers is an important component of any disaster risk management strategy that aims at fostering community recovery, strength and resilience in vulnerable areas.

The Sendai Framework explicitly recognizes the contribution of volunteerism to disaster risk management and emphasizes the importance for States to encourage “volunteers, organized voluntary work organizations and community-based organizations to participate, in collaboration with public institutions, to, inter alia, provide specific knowledge and pragmatic guidance in the context of the development and implementation of normative frameworks, standards and plans for disaster risk reduction; engage in the implementation of local, national, regional and global plans and strategies; contribute to and support public awareness, a culture of prevention and education on disaster risk; and advocate for resilient communities and an inclusive and all-of-society disaster risk management that strengthen synergies across groups, as appropriate.”

Governments and related stakeholders should be able to rely on volunteers as a source in integrated disaster management and not treat them as a stand-alone component.

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Strategic Framework (SF) 2014-2017 articulates the scope and dimensions of UNV’s strategic direction, results and associated resource requirements over a four-year period and identifies community resilience for environment and disaster risk reduction as one of the strategic focus areas for the work of the organization.

The intended outcome of the event

UNV programme supports global efforts to reduce the impact of disasters by working at regional, national and community level to support disaster prevention and risk reduction strategies. UNV supports countries that have an identified risk and high vulnerability to disaster to mitigate the effects of crisis and address its root causes. In 2015 UNV-administered funds were spent on community resilience for environment and disaster risk reduction.

	<p>The UNV will help to fulfill the commitments across the countries in southern Asia by undertaking the following actions;</p> <p>Priority 1: understanding disaster risk; under this priority, the UNV should support through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit volunteers and sensitize them about the need • Generate a data base of hazard potential areas and disaster affected zones and <p>Priority 2: strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk; under this priority, the UNV should support by taking up the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hazard prone areas to be clearly identified both in the cities and the villages, and ensure that future construction of buildings are made with precautions in the case of flood/earthquake/cyclone prone areas (earthquake proof & flood resilient) <p>Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The private sector to be sensitized about the need to help invest in disaster risk reduction. The schemes can be flood control dams, cyclone shelters, earthquake resilient buildings and small irrigation systems (to fight drought). <p>Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNV with support from other UN Agencies and the government will mobilize and prepare volunteers to standard drill for responding to disasters (flood/cyclone/Tsunami etc.)
<p>Session format and programme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNV Advocacy presentations with highlights on: Volunteerism and Disaster Risk Reduction • Volunteer panel of discussion and experience sharing on volunteerism: with UNV contribution on disaster preparedness and mitigation • UNV Partnerships and advantages with Government institution, civil society organization in promotion of volunteerism and disaster risk reduction • Simulation exercise on emergency response and rescue <p>Speakers – Rafael Martinez, Narendra Mishra, UNVs and others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative of the Government of Japan • UN Volunteers under the regional project (from India, Thailand, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Malaysia and Myanmar) <p>The event will be started by a number of UN Volunteers introducing their role supporting disaster risk reduction initiatives in the host countries and finalized, by introducing the initiatives jointly undertaken by UNDP-UNV-UNISDR.</p> <p>After interaction with the audiences, (Japanese Ambassador) will present</p>

	<p>UNV's vision and global programme on Community Resilience for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction. This vision will emphasize UNV's support to the UN System in Asia and Pacific through a regional project, and possible collaboration towards the enhancement of multi-layered collaboration of volunteer programmes on DRR.</p> <p>At the event a number of publications highlighting UNV's contributions to DRR will be distributed.</p>
Intended main outcome and Key messages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of recruited volunteers increased and sensitized about the need for disaster risk reduction • Data base of hazard potential areas and disaster affected zones generated by 2017 • The hazard prone areas clearly identified both in cities and the villages, have buildings constructed with cautions (building codes) in the case of flood/earthquake/cyclone prone areas (earthquake proof & flood resilient) • The private sectors are sensitized on schemes and the need to help invest in disaster risk reduction through schemes on flood control dams, cyclone shelters, earthquake resilient buildings and small irrigation systems (to fight drought). • UNV with support from other UN Agencies and the government mobilized and prepared volunteers to standard drill for responding to disasters (flood/cyclone/Tsunami etc.)
List of Speakers and their interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative of the Government of Japan • UN Volunteers under the regional project (from India, Thailand, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Malaysia and Myanmar)
Technical Equipment	Projector, computer, microphones, others