United Nations
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Making Cities Resilient:
My City is Getting Ready

World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2010-15

www.unisdr.org/campaign

Is your city ready?



Information and modalities for nomination and participation for

Cities and Local Governments

Making Cities Resilient

The World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2010-2015 "Making Cities Resilient: My city is getting ready!" aims at getting Mayors, local governments and national authorities to take actions towards making cities resilient as part of sustainable urbanization.

A ten-point action plan for city resilience (see Annex 1) and its related indicator questions is the guiding tool for local governments to undertake actions throughout the campaign to reduce risks. It builds on the priorities set out in the international blueprint *"Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the resilience of communities and nations to disasters".* The capacity of local government officials and institutions to make cities resilient is a high priority to advance the local implementation.

This document explains the modalities how cities / local governments can sign up to the campaign. For further information on the campaign refer to www.unisdr.org/campaign.

Role of cities and local governments in the Campaign

Mayors and **Local Government Officials** are invited to play a leadership role in the Campaign in different ways:

- as **Advocates** at international and national levels
- in their own cities and nationally, as **Leader** for **Development** and **Disaster Risk Reduction** implementation at the local level, and
- in pledging for innovation, partnerships and initiatives that will help their **Cities** to become safer, more disaster **resilient**.

UNISDR and participating partner organizations will provide support to publicizing success and practice, provide space for learning and meeting, to mobilize expertise and resources, and seek to influence policy makers at all levels. There will be no ear-marked resources to support specific activities by participating cities, which would be undertaken directly with the local government themselves with their local or other partners.

Participating cities will be encouraged to contribute resources and know-how to other cities in the campaign within their reach and capacity. City-to-city collaboration, twinning and networks will be promoted throughout the campaign.

Campaign Partners

UN-Habitat and other UN agencies, World Bank, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), City Net, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, World Mayors Council on Climate Change, Earthquake Megacities Initiatives (EMI), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Cross Societies (IFRC), Global Network for Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Risk Reduction, GROOTS International, Huairou Commission and many more.

How to sign up to the campaign?

The campaign aims to encourage cities and local governments in all countries to sign up to the ten essentials and identify activities and plans to improve the city resilience. It first targets Mayors / Governors / Commissioners and City Councils in the first instance, whilst also addressing technical staff and national authorities responsible for local and urban development planning and disaster risk management and reduction.

The term 'city' refers to urban areas in general, and the term 'local government' includes both urban and rural communities of different scales (i.e. regional, provincial, metropolitan, cities, towns, municipalities, districts and villages).

Identify your area of action during the campaign and beyond

"Participating Cities" in the Campaign

All cities and local governments that are interested in participating in the campaign are encouraged to sign up on the campaign website using the online application form: www.unisdr.org/campaign or by submitting the relevant documents to: isdr-campaign@un.org. Local governments are requested to fill in the online form or submit the nomination form (Annex 2).

In both cases, a letter from the Mayor's office addressed to UNISDR shall confirm the participation in the campaign, confirming the participation in the campaign and indicating which other organizations the city will engage during the campaign.

Community groups, National Associations of local governments, academia and others can initiate the nomination process through contacting the Mayor´s office.

By signing up online and sending the mayor´s letter or by sending the nomination form and the mayor's letter to UNISDR, the local government automatically participates in the campaign and will be added to the web-based campaign city map. After signing up the local government can create its own online profile on the campaign website.

A campaign certificate that will be either sent virtually or given in a signing ceremony will complete the sign-up process.

UNISDR encourages the Mayor's office to seek the approval of the City Council to be officially involved as a "participating city" in the campaign. The local government shall inform the central government about the participation and notify the official Hyogo Framework for Action focal point or the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (contact information can be requested from UNISDR secretariat.)

The city will have the possibility to actively exchange experiences with other campaign cities. All participating cities and local governments will be regularly updated by UNISDR on the campaign activities and other activities initiated by partners.

UNISDR Support to the Campaign

As the coordinator of the Campaign, UNISDR will cater for regional and global partnerships of support for the local governments participating in the campaign and UNISDR will in particular provide support to the following activities:

- **Advocacy with national and local government** on the need for **increased capacities and resources** for cities and local governments to deal with disaster risk and making cities resilient.
- **Promote city-to-city learning and exchanges** among cities and local governments in the campaign, matching partners and local governments offers and continue to promote 'signing up of cities' to the campaign.
- **Support development of training for local governments** on urban risk and resilience in collaboration with training centers and academia, promoting capacity development and learning opportunities for cities and local governments in each region.
- **Tool-kit**: the Handbook for Local Government Leaders, the Local Government Self Assessment Tool, campaign-website for sharing of tools and experiences, development of papers and guidance towards improved standards in several fields of making cities resilient.
- **Media events**, communication tools and a Making Cities Resilient Report
- The **United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Risk Reduction** 2011, 2013 and 2015, and promote new awards for resilient cities with partners

Shared Responsibility

No earmarked funding is available in UNISDR to sponsor projects and initiatives by cities and local governments as part of the campaign. The cities themselves and their partners are expected to support the organization of awareness events, meetings and planning focusing on the Campaign objectives and resilience. Specific proposals may be considered, if resources are available, for co-funding and on a case by case basis.

UNISDR and campaign partners will cater with national, multi-lateral and bi-lateral development organizations to prioritize projects and funding for urban risk reduction and making cities resilient. All such information will be made available on the campaign website.

To finance disaster risk reduction at the local level a strategic plan is often the best way to seek resources through the city budget and from regional/provincial, national or international sources. Regular financing can come from city revenues, national disbursements and allocations to sectoral departments.

Detailed information on finance options and opportunities can be found on the campaign website and the handbook for Mayors: www.unisdr.org/campaign

For more information, please visit the campaign website:

URL: www.unisdr.org/campaign

Contact one of the UNISDR offices:

UNISDR Secretariat Geneva
E-mail: isdr-campaign@un.org

UNISDR Regional Office Africa, Nairobi
Email: isdr-africa@unep.org

UNISDR Regional Office Americas, Panama
Email: eird@eird.org

UNISDR Regional Office for Arab States, Cairo
Email: isdr-arabstates@un.org

UNISDR Regional Office Asia and Pacific, Bangkok
Email: isdr-bkk@un.org

UNISDR Regional Office Europe, Brussels
Email: isdr-europe@un.org

Annex I

A Ten-point checklist for local governments[1]- Ten essentials for making cities resilient

The campaign proposes a Ten-point checklist of Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient to serve as a guide for commitment by Mayors.

Have your City Council and local government sign up to this!

Ten-point Checklist - Essentials for Making Cities Resilient[1]

1. Put in place **organization and coordination** to understand and reduce disaster risk within the local government, based on participation of citizen groups and civil society-build local alliances. Ensure that all departments understand their role and contribution to disaster risk reduction and preparedness.

2. **Assign a budget** for disaster risk reduction and provide incentives for homeowners, low-income families, communities, businesses and public sector to invest in reducing the risks they face.

3. Maintain up-to-date data on hazards and vulnerabilities, **prepare risk assessments** and use these as the basis for urban development plans and decisions. Ensure that this information and the plans for your city's resilience are readily available to the public and fully discussed with them.

4. Invest in and maintain **infrastructure that reduces risk**, such as flood drainage, adjusted where needed to cope with climate change.

5. Assess the **safety of all schools and health facilities** and upgrade these as necessary.

6. Apply and enforce **realistic, risk-compliant building regulations** and **land use planning principles**. Identify **safe land for low-income citizens** and develop upgrading of informal settlements, wherever feasible.

7. Ensure **education programmes and training** on disaster risk reduction are in place in schools and local communities.

8. **Protect ecosystems and natural buffers** to mitigate floods, storm surges and other hazards to which your city may be vulnerable. Adapt to climate change by building on good risk reduction practices.

9. Install **early warning systems and emergency management capacities** in your city and hold regular public preparedness drills in which everyone participates.

10. After any disaster, ensure that the **needs of the survivors are placed** at the centre of reconstruction with support for them and their community organizations to design and help implement responses, including rebuilding homes and livelihoods.

[1] The Checklist builds on the priorities identified in the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters* - www.unisdr.org/hfa

Annex II

Nomination form for cities and local governments to participate in the campaign

Please send the nomination form and the mayor's letter to isdr-campaign@un.org or use the online submission form available on the campaign website: www.unisdr.org/campaign.

Nominations will be accepted on an ongoing basis throughout 2010-15.

City / Local Government (Please indicate the year the numbers were provided.)	
City name	Jabalia Al.Nazlh Municipality
Province/State	Gaza Strip
Country	Palestine
Size (year)	18 k.m2 / 2013
Population (year)	200.000 people / 2010
GDP	2.000.000 $ (year)
Hazard type(s)	1. Environmental and health Disasters. 2. Flood Disasters.
Name of Mayor / Commissioner / Governor / Community leader	
Mr. Issam M. Jouda	
Which part of the city administration will be the focal point for the Campaign?	
International & Public Relation Department	
Contact details Focal Point	
Name	Sadi Dabboor
Function	Manager Of Department
Address	Jabalia City – Gaza Strip - Palestine
Email	Jab.munc@yahoo.com
Telephone	00970599131751
Fax	0097082477020
Which local institutions will be engaged in the Campaign? (In addition to the local government.)	
Civil Defense Foundation	
Hazard and Vulnerability Profile (Please indicate major disasters that have occurred, prevailing hazards and vulnerable conditions.)	
1. Environmental Hazard which happened one Sewage Station / 2009 in Jabalia city. 2. Flood Hazard which happened in Jabalia Camp 2011 .	

Achievements and plans in relation to the ten essentials areas A - Make an estimation of the status per essential as follows: 1 - poor/nothing in place, 2 - some progress in place, 3 - in place, well functioning, or N/A B - Please describe main areas of progress and achievements. C - Please identify activities and plans your city will pay special attention to improve the current situation during the campaign and beyond. Additionally, feel free to propose special events or activities your city would like undertake to raise awareness on disaster resilience. Please select the respective Essential(s).	
Essential 1 – Risk reducing organization and coordination in place	Status – 2
Progress and achievements – we are working according to municipal planning for organization .	
Plans – Strategic Planning 2013 – 2016	
Essential 2 – Budget assigned	Status - 1
Progress and achievements - Budget assigned will be placed at the end of the current year	
Plans - Budget assigned will be placed at the end of the current year	
Essential 3 – Risk assessment prepared	Status - 3
Progress and achievements - Has been re- Risk assessment prepared In the strategic plan of the city 2013 – 2016	
Plans - Strategic Planning 2013 – 2016	
Essential 4 – Investment in risk reducing infrastructure	Status - 3
Progress and achievements - Open field Front Infrastructure projects for the city infrastructure By financiers And processing Engineering plans required	
Plans - Strategic Planning 2013 – 2016	
Essential 5 – Safe schools and health facilities	Status - 2
Progress and achievements – Jabalia City suffering from shortage numbers of schools & health facilities, and we planning to increase the number to 5 school and 2 health facilities.	
Plans - Strategic Planning 2013 – 2016	
Essential 6 – Risk-compliant building regulation and land use applied	Status - 1
Progress and achievements - 1. Building Planning 2. Prevent the indiscriminate construction	
Plans - Strategic Planning 2013 – 2016	
Essential 7 – Education programmes and training in place	Status - 1
Progress and achievements - Establishment of training and education centers	
Plans - Strategic Planning 2013 – 2016	
Essential 8 – Ecosystems and natural buffers protected	Status – 1
Progress and achievements – sorry, We do not have	
Plans – we do not have plans for Ecosystems and natural buffers protected	
Essential 9 – Early warning systems installed	Status - 1
Progress and achievements - sorry, We do not have	
Plans - sorry, We do not have for Early warning systems installed	
Essential 10 – Needs-based (survivors) reconstruction	Status - 1
Progress and achievements - sorry, We do not have	
Plans - sorry, We do not have	

Annex III

World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2010-15, UNISDR Secretariat, E-mail: isdr-campaign@un.org

Tools provided by the Making Cities Resilient Campaign

A full list of tools related to the 10 essentials for making cities resilient can be found under the "Toolkit" section of the campaign website: www.unisdr.org/campaign.

Two such tools developed under the framework of the campaign are introduced below:

Local Government Self Assessment Tool (LGSAT)

A self-assessment tool for local governments was developed to help **set baselines, identify gaps and have comparable data across local governments**, within the country and globally, to measure advancements over time. By using this universal tool, cities and local governments can argue for priority setting and budget allocations within the city council and with the national government.

To be effective, the self-assessment should be undertaken as a **multi-stakeholder process**, facilitated by local governments. The main actors include local government authorities, civil society organizations, local academia, the business community and community-based organizations, with the support of national entities as needed. The involvement of civil society organizations and community-based organizations is essential to the success of this process.

The tool is available both online and offline. The online system is hosted on the campaign website www.unisdr.org/campaign. Access to the online system requires a registration process, facilitated by the UNISDR regional offices and the respective national focal point for disaster risk reduction. Each local government user will be provided a unique user ID and password to access the system. Detailed guidelines on the local government self-assessment tool (LGSAT) are also available online.

A Handbook for Local Government Leaders

The handbook was developed by UNISDR and campaign partners following the request by mayors and local government leaders for a practical guide on the "Ten Essentials of Making Cities Resilient" and to help plan and implement a community's risk reduction initiative. It provides an overview of issues related to disaster risk reduction that illustrates the basics of assessing social and economic risk; the essential steps for cities to be safer and more resilient, with a view toward local sustainable development; and opportunities and strategies for advocacy and collaborative working arrangements with national institutions and partners.

Building on knowledge and expertise of cities and local governments participating in the global campaign **Making Cities Resilient: My city is getting ready!**, the handbook includes amongst others:

- A working definition of a disaster-resilient city & an explanation of the drivers that put cities at risk.
- A compelling case for investing city resources in disaster risk reduction, including a discussion of the the risks associated with *not* paying attention to these issues.
- Suggested options for policies that, if established, will give validity to and enable investment in disaster risk reduction.
- An overview of the **Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient**, a checklist of critical and interdependent steps for building resiliency.
- Good practices from cities around the world, demonstrating how they have applied the Ten Essentials to reduce risk and increase disaster resiliency.

- A chapter on how to implement the Ten Essentials, organized around five milestone phases that outline 14 steps you can take.