3rd Annual Meeting of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction

Summary

27 countries
(25 countries in 2011)

60 participants
(50 participants in 2011)

21 National Platforms; 35 countries with HFA Focal point
Monday 1 October 2012
Zlatko Gareljić, Defense Advisor to the President of Croatia: Advocate lowering risk for disasters by keeping the citizens’ aware of the realistic threats; key success is cooperation among different stakeholders.

Ranko Ostojić, Minister of Interior: Next two years will see a very important process of defining global directions in disaster risk reduction – Europe cannot be a passive observer.

Margareta Wahlstrom, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNISDR: Regional and national consultation is key to a sound post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction; EFDRR working groups are truly enabling to advance policy dialogue in Europe.

Dubravka Pleić Marković, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs: Need for Information sharing on this topic; also across regional and cross-bordering initiatives;

Jadran Perinić, Director of the NPRD: Special Current focus for NPRD is dealing with DRR at community level.
Champion of Local Change Award

Outcome:
- Increased awareness on Citizen engagement towards building Resilience
- Upcoming chairs to continue with the award at upcoming Annual EFDRR meetings (Norway, Spain, France, Finland)

Award Ceremony:
- Croatian educator Sunèana Jokic a “Champion of Local Change” award for her work in raising awareness on disaster risk with a special focus on children and young people – particularly special needs children.
- Ms. Jokic was the Director of the Lièe Faraguna Center in Labin, specializing in elementary education and pupils with mild, moderate and severe learning disabilities. She has pushed for inclusion of disaster risk reduction in the school curriculum, especially in lessons for vulnerable groups.
- “Without Ms. Jokic the inclusion or adaptation of protection and rescue activities in the community of children and young people, who belong to vulnerable groups, would be virtually impossible.”
Remember - if you are working with one child you are working with a whole
Post-2015 Discussion

Outcome: EFDRR Post-2015 consultation.

Recommendations:

• Summary of Key outcomes will be put in a 2-3 page summary to be circulated with EFDRR participants.
• UNISDR to continue posting outcome of other regional national and actors consultations on PreventionWeb.
• UNISDR Europe to also indicate through the E-Bulletin national Post-2015 consultations taken place in Europe.

Experience shared from:

• Group and plenary discussion on national and regional experiences
Summary of Key Elements

1. Missing links between the Governmental processes in the international arena (MoFa) and the discussion taking place at the national level;

2. Practical example: Organisation of the SEE summit focusing on DRR and CCA, and sustainable development

3. Ensuring the links between the different international discussions between MDGs, Sustainable Development and DRR

4. The principles of the existing framework are still very useful

5. The added value of the HFA has been put together the hazards, institutional and science perspectives

6. Missing risk assessment methodologies, targets and indicators, lack of information to the public/individuals as well as different responsibilities, lack of minimum standards in DRR, perception of risk.
Summary of Key Elements (continued)

7. Applying risk governance, environmental impact assessment guidelines, e.g. implementing EU-Floods Directive

8. Different level of responsibility and accountability from individual to the regional level; e.g. local authorities are responsible for urban planning; but regional and national authorities can prescribe that certain areas are not to be developed;

9. Increase awareness and transparency: e.g. Publish risk maps (e.g. flooding) represent a good way to show transparency and engage the public

10. There is the need to build on the good work on climate change adaptation, land-use planning, risk assessments, schools & hospitals and be part of the new Post-2015 framework.

11. Need to use catchy language in communicating the topic
National Platform Review

Outcome: The session emphasized the need to continue improving National Platforms in increasing their capacity to be effective. The National Platform Review will provide some conclusive reflection and recommendation in this regards.

Recommendations:
• To review the questionnaire and improve the language
• All National Platforms to fill-out the questionnaire by 31 October 2012
• Report to be published at the Global Platform of DRR in May 2013

Experience shared from:
• Reference Group: 20 Countries World Wide - Germany, Norway and Sweden have actively joined the National Platform Review
• Working Group: 7 countries of the world on which Germany and Sweden participates
Tuesday 2 October 2012
EFDRR Presence in 2012

• 2012 EFDRR Logo adopted
• On 24 February 2012 Friends of the Chair provided advice to Work Plan in Brussels, Belgium
• 19-20 Mar 2012 – EFDRR members attended the Europe Resilient Cities meeting, Venice, Italy
• 25-26 April 2012 - The Committee of Permanent Correspondents Meeting, Council of Europe (EUR-OPA), Strasbourg, France
• 29 June 2012 - The EFDRR Steering Committee discussed the draft agenda of 3rd Annual Meeting of the EFDRR
• 27 August 2012 – IDRC, Davos, Switzerland: Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into climate change adaptation strategies: A governance point of view 1-7 Sept 2012 – UNHABITAT Sixth World Urban Forum, Naples, Italy
• 4-5 Oct 2012 - The Committee of Permanent Correspondents Meeting, Council of Europe (EUR-OPA), Dubrovnik, Republic of Croatia
Briefing on main international events in 2012

Outcome: Briefing and Overview events Rio+20 and on-going post-MDGs discussion

Recommendations:
• Use the outcome of Rio+20 and the specific language related to DRR to continue high-level engagement in building resilience of disasters at national level
• National Platform and HFA Focal Points to continue their work with their respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs to ensure DRR reflection in their on-going sustainable processes
• UNISDR to share communications on DRR sent to Permanent Missions with National Platforms and HFA Focal Points

Experience shared from:
• Rio+20 outcome on DRR
• Post-MDGs consultations process
Update from Regional/Sub-Regional Organizations

Strong Engagement from regional/sub-regional organizations in supporting DRR with upcoming full agendas:

- **Council of Europe (EUR-OPA):**
  - Advances on Education and Awareness
  - Advances on Training
  - Making cities resilient Resolution 339 (2012)

- **EC:**
  - Improving the knowledge base (Disaster Data key issues)
  - Promoting Risk Assessment
  - Policy integration and Investment
  - Support to help build a culture of prevention
  - Policy Development related to DRR

- **DPPI:**
  - Advances on Training and training of Trainers
Presentation of City of Dubrovnik

Outcome: Showcase relevance of protecting cultural heritage. Shared knowledge on Dubrovnik disasters and reconstruction phase (Earthquake Proof)
Reception hosted by Mr. Andro Vlahušić, Mayor of the City of Dubrovnik

**Outcome:** Relevance of Citizens’ active engagement towards a sustainable development and resilient society; Importance of sharing experiences and twinning; Relevance of cultural heritage
Wednesday 3 October 2012
Selection of Co-Chair 2013

Spain – Co-Chair 2013 & Chair 2014

Nomination for Co-Chair in upcoming years:
• France (2014)
• Finland (2015)
Outcomes
- Highlighted benefit of the EU Exchange of Experts Programme
- UK being peer reviewed on the HFA Monitor Report and recommends for other countries to be reviewed
- EC has offered to continue to support the Peer Review Process
- Finland, France and Sweden would be ready to be part of the upcoming Peer Review
- WG 2 has reached their objective and therefore disband

Recommendations
• EFDRR members to make use EU Exchange of Experts Programme;
• Countries should share their information on EFDRR Workspace on expertise for an exchange
• More countries to sign up for the Peer Review
• HFA Monitor template is not fit for purpose – need to simply

Experience shared from
• Promoting Exchanges and using the EU Exchange of Experts Programme
• HFA Monitor Peer Review UK
Local Level Implementation of HFA (Working Group 3)

Outcomes

- Presentation of developed Work plan and set of proposed activities of the WG3
- Venice and Copenhagen experiencing already the impact of climate change and supporting related costs [Copenhagen 1 billion US$ + 3 floods in one year]
- Portugal has already carried out a lot of work on DRR also focusing on awareness and preparedness
- Common concerns are related to the lack of financial resources to implement DRR activities

- Discussion on citizens engagement in defining priority mitigation measures.
- Portugal has joined the Working Group 3 together with Austria, Italy and Sweden [informally Norway has expressed its interest to join the WG3 in 2014]
Local Level Implementation of HFA (Working Group 3)

Recommendations:
• The need to integrate cultural heritage protection into multi-risk assessment
• The need to integrate the scientific partners at local level acting as a glue between the public and private sector
• WG3 to find a way to involve private sector and NGOs
• Initiatives aimed at fostering the use of Local Government Self Assessment Tool (LGSAT);

Experience shared from:
• Presentation of WG3 Work Plan
• Italy - Cultural heritage at the local level - Outcomes of the Cultural heritage Meeting in Venice and the World Urban Forum in Naples
• Denmark - Making Copenhagen Resilient by adaptation to Climate Changes
• Portugal - Amadora Local Campaign – Making Cities Resilient
Outcome:

• Agreed on publishing the survey outcome on reviewing national adaptation plans/strategy issues related to disaster risk reduction.
• Sami Zeidan, DG Climate, to join the Working Group 1
• Working Group tasked by EFDRR to:
  – Accompany the work on CCA and DRR up to 2015;
  – Continue to update the EFDRR on development in European Countries on CCA and framework
  – Share the report with the national CCA community
Recommendation:
- National Platforms to hold national discussions on Post-2015, Post-MDGs, Rio+20 outcomes and ensure that national stakeholders dealing with the different processes participate
- WG3 revert back on the outcome and progression of the tasked issues

Experience shared from:
- Knowledge Sharing and Outcomes of Rio+20, IPCC SREX)
- WG1 undertook a survey to all European HFA focal points and NPs coordinators to find out if nations include in their adaptation plans/strategy issues related to disaster risk reduction
- Poland: Recent activities on CCA & DRR
Outcome:
• 1 June 2013 - Summit of Heads of State and Government of the SEECP Participating States: to view disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation within sustainable development agenda.

Expected Outcome of the Heads of State and Government Meeting:
• To share commitment at the highest level of this topics;
• To provide reflection on post-2015 agenda(s);
• To reflect on the added value of regional cooperation;
• To view main areas of future engagement in DRR-CCA for sustainable development in the region
Main elements and highlights for EFDRR to provide input for 2012

Outcome:
• Italy, Finland, Sweden, and Switzerland finalized their National HFA Monitor Interim Report, 9 countries started to work on-line and several countries are working offline.
• Croatia, Serbia and Italy have undertaken initial steps to develop their own national disaster loss database.

Recommendation:
• EFDRR Members to ensure the finalization of the Interim HFA Monitoring Report
• Ensure the development of the Regional Report to be launched at the Global Platform for DRR in May 2013
• Ensure and Communicate to UNISDR the High-level (President, Prime Minister, Ministers) European Participation at the Global Platform for DRR in May 2013
• More European Countries to initiate the development of national disaster loss database
Thank you very much for all your support!