



GFDRR TRACK I



**STRENGTHENING REGIONAL AND GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIPS FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

A Five Year Retrospective: 2007- 2011

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United Nations Photo



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foreword



Francis Ghesquiere,
Head of GFDRR Secretariat
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The World Bank

A unique model for collaboration between the World Bank and the UN, the GFDRR - UNISDR partnership brings together different yet mutually reinforcing efforts. UNISDR, the UN focal point for disaster risk reduction and the guardian of the Hyogo Framework for Action, raises the profile of disaster risk reduction internationally as a convener at the global and regional levels, facilitating knowledge exchange and raising awareness. GFDRR builds upon this enabling environment by supporting the mainstreaming of disaster and climate risk management in country development strategies.

I am pleased to see UNISDR establish itself as a prominent international convener on disaster risk reduction, with the help of GFDRR Track I financing. The joint annual work plan has had an effective role, at the global and regional levels, by bringing together countries to learn from each other and develop common strategies for building disaster resilience. These engagements have also facilitated active dialogues between UNISDR and World Bank regional teams, to ensure that trans-border initiatives support in-country action.

There is growing consensus that disaster risk management is integral to development planning. This was echoed by the Development Committee during the 2012 IMF/World Bank Annual Meeting in Tokyo. As we move towards 2015 we will work closely with UNISDR and our international partners to help ensure that disaster resilience remains a priority for international cooperation.

Even with the start-up World Bank financing to Track I coming into its final year, as envisaged, we remain committed to this partnership, with a focus on coordination and synergy. I am keen to strengthen the cooperation with UNISDR, based on the successes, lessons learned and future prospects, summarized in this report. The collective and concerted efforts of all stakeholders will enable countries and communities to save lives and resources, and ensure that development trajectories are not derailed by disasters.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'F. Ghesquiere'.



Margareta Wahlström,
Special Representative
of the Secretary-General
for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Recently I attended the European Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction in the beautiful walled city of Dubrovnik. It was the 3rd such annual gathering and 27 countries were in attendance. The mood was lively and there was a deep reflection on the achievements and challenges of implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and what can be done better in designing the post-2015 international framework for disaster risk reduction.

When I try to picture what we have achieved as a result of our partnership with the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) over the last five years, it is the engagement and clear commitment of the actors present at many such regional gatherings that leaves me with the feeling that it has been worthwhile and will continue to bear expected, and unexpected fruit, for years to come. For example, these countries in Europe are proud that they have seized the initiative to conduct the first-ever peer review of HFA implementation at country level, with the UK bravely volunteering to be the first to put its efforts under the microscope. This is one small, recent proof that Track I funding is creating an enabling environment for national policies to be implemented, and is supporting innovative forms of regional cooperation.

In every domain of UNISDR's work there are positive examples of how GFDRR support has helped transform the political landscape in building disaster resilience. Key regional and sub-regional inter-governmental organizations have been engaged and supported through this partnership, resulting in strategies and action plans for disaster risk reduction in all regions, and in specific outcomes such as Climate Change Forums in Africa. When it comes to the development and dissemination of credible evidence, an outstanding legacy of this partnership must be the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction, which is shaping government thinking on the links between disasters and poverty reduction.

Track I funding has helped to kick-start global advocacy and outreach initiatives which are building disaster resilience at local level, including the Making Cities Resilient Campaign and the One Million Safe Schools and Hospitals Campaign. All in all, it has been a remarkable five years.

1 Introduction

Following the negotiation of the Hyogo Framework for Action in Kobe in 2005, the World Bank, donor partners and key stakeholders of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) system launched the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) as ‘a partnership of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters [HFA]’.¹

The mission and rationale of GFDRR was defined in the founding Partnership Charter:

“*The GFDRR is a unique long-term global partnership under the ISDR system established to develop and implement the HFA through a coordinated program for reversing the trend in disaster losses by 2015. The GFDRR complements and reinforces ongoing efforts of ISDR stakeholders in disaster reduction. It facilitates ownership by developing countries and augments the volume and effectiveness of donor partner support in disaster reduction*”. [para. 4]

GFDRR has evolved as an important pillar of the ISDR architecture to mainstream disaster risk reduction into development planning and financing. As part of these efforts, GFDRR has partnered with UNISDR through Track I to strengthen the coherence and coordination of the global and regional disaster risk reduction system to enable nations to build their resilience to natural hazards.

Financial support for this partnership has been provided through GFDRR to the United Nations secretariat of the ISDR (UNISDR) by the World Bank’s Development Grant Facility (DGF). DGF financing to Track I is scheduled to phase out in FY 2013 due to DGF policy, which focuses on launching innovative partnerships with venture financing, while the partners strive to achieve financial sustainability.

The initiatives funded under Track I have operated at the global level as well as across the regions of Africa, South

Asia, East Asia and Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa, and Europe and Central Asia. Track I funding has been used to “catalyse” political commitment, policies and knowledge at global and regional levels to create an enabling environment for national policies and actions, particularly in areas that leverage World Bank technical and financial resources.

The programmatic activities of Track I will be reviewed in more detail in Section 4. They include strengthening the regional architecture for implementing the HFA through regional platforms, ministerial meetings, regional strategies and action plans; building a credible evidence base for planning, budgeting and action including addressing trans-boundary risks; providing seed funding for large global knowledge-generation and advocacy activities such as the Global Assessment Report, the UNISDR Making Cities Resilient Campaign and PreventionWeb. Track I reporting and evaluations have demonstrated how relatively small amounts of DGF seed funding add value through low-cost entry points such as regional platforms, knowledge generation and sharing, and global campaigns.

This report provides a five year retrospective on the experiences and successes of Track I and identifies some pointers for 2013 and beyond. As the 6th year of partnership (FY 2012) is currently under implementation and the workplan of the 7th and final year (FY 2013) has been agreed, this report focuses only on the period 2007-2011.

1. See Partnership Charter 2007 paragraph 1; this Charter was reissued in 2010.

GFDRR

GFDRR is a multi-donor partnership and financing mechanism, housed in the World Bank, on behalf of donors and partners of the ISDR system, who are represented at the regular governance meetings - the Consultative Group - that guide GFDRR's strategic direction, in line with the Partnership Charter and Partnership Strategy. GFDRR is also mandated as the policy focal point, or 'anchor', for the World Bank Group on Disaster Risk Management, providing support to regional departments within the World Bank and policy guidance to World Bank clients and partners.

GFDRR provides the financial and technical support platform for three levels of action:

- Track I 'Support to the ISDR system through the ISDR secretariat' (Global and Regional Partnerships),
- Track II 'Support to countries for mainstreaming disaster reduction in development' (Disaster Risk Reduction Mainstreaming Program); and
- Track III 'Standby Recovery Financing Facility' (SRFF) to undertake quick post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.

In addition to the three Tracks, GFDRR has a number of Special Initiatives and Service Lines covering global and regional activities including for example Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance; GFDRR Labs; GFDRR Hydromet; and the ACP-EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program.

UNISDR

UNISDR was established in 1999 to facilitate the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), mandated "to serve as the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among the disaster reduction activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations and activities in socio-economic and humanitarian fields" [UN General Assembly Resolution 56/195]. With the adoption of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA), the United Nations General Assembly tasked UNISDR with supporting its implementation.

UNISDR's vision is a world in which nations and communities are resilient to natural disasters and climate change. UNISDR's Mission is to mobilize leaders behind the HFA, to produce evidence for disaster risk reduction, and to ensure that communities can reduce the risks associated with disasters and climate change. UNISDR's Strategic Framework 2015 outlines four objectives:

1. **Lead and Coordinate:** Strengthen support to the implementation and coordination of the ISDR and the HFA and improve coherence with climate change adaptation and the Millennium Development Goals.
2. **Credible Evidence:** Produce and disseminate credible evidence to strengthen decision making at local, national and regional levels in support of disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and achievement of the MDGs.
3. **Advocacy and Outreach:** Increase public and private sector investments in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation through advocacy and outreach.
4. **Deliver and Communicate Results:** Build an effective, results-orientated UNISDR to execute its mandate.





In 2012, Manila was inundated by one of the worst floods in Philippine history, spurring increased efforts to integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into planning and development.

2 Strategic and Complementary Approach

The UNISDR and GFDRR secretariats are the mandated focal points for disaster risk reduction coordination across the United Nations and World Bank Group respectively, providing a powerful basis for cooperation. While their specific roles differ due to distinct institutional contexts and mandates, UNISDR and GFDRR's efforts are complementary and mutually reinforcing, with both adding value to disaster risk management and resilience efforts at global, regional and country levels.

UNISDR leads on shaping **global disaster risk reduction policy and advocacy**, focussing particularly on mobilizing political support for the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015, monitoring global risk reduction efforts through the HFA Monitor, convening stakeholders at the Global Platform, and spearheading the negotiations towards a new global framework for risk reduction and resilience post 2015. GFDRR/World Bank supports and amplifies this global advocacy by providing technical support to policy dialogues such as the G20 deliberations on risk reduction and to the World Bank/IMF Annual and Spring Meetings, and organizing the World Reconstruction Conference alongside the Global Platform in 2011. Representing the World Bank, GFDRR will participate actively in the post 2015 negotiations and contribute lessons learnt and experience from financing disaster risk reduction implementation at country level.

This complementary approach is replicated at regional level, where UNISDR and GFDRR partner in supporting regional policy dialogue and political leadership by strengthening inter-governmental processes and organizations. Recognizing that regional bodies provide key linkages between global policy dialogue and national actions for implementation, UNISDR supports **regional inter-governmental organizations and processes**, resulting in ministerially-endorsed strategies in Africa [Africa Strategy and Plan of Action for Disaster Risk

Reduction], Asia and the Pacific [Incheon Regional Road Map and Action Plan on disaster risk reduction through climate change adaptation], and the Arab States [Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction].

To accelerate implementation of **regional strategies** and commitments, GFDRR encourages and supports World Bank regional disaster risk management teams to provide technical assistance to regional inter-governmental organizations and centres of excellence such as Secretariat of the Pacific Community - Applied Geoscience and Technology Division [SOPAC], to trans-boundary risk programmes such as regional risk financing and transfer facilities [e.g. Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility, CCRIF] and for regional risk assessment initiatives [e.g. Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment, CAPRA]. Other examples include cooperation with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development [IGAD] Climate Prediction and Applications Center in improving the ability to use regional modelling techniques to assist in the development of climate change adaptation and climate risk management.

The GFDRR Track I activities should be reviewed as part of this broader programme of actions that GFDRR and UNISDR undertake to enhance global and regional advocacy, partnerships and knowledge management to mainstream disaster reduction.

3 Partnership Funding

Global and regional initiatives have been supported on an annual needs basis, as agreed between UNISDR and GFDRR/World Bank, varying in size from US\$30,000 to US\$300,000 and covering an extensive range of activities.

Resources for Track I between 2007 and 2011 totalled \$24 million – approximately 20% of UNISDR overall income during the period, as can be seen in Table 1. During this time, the DGF funds provided UNISDR with a predictable funding base, which was critical to longer-term planning and implementation - particularly in helping to create an enabling environment for regional dialogue and support. In nearly all cases, UNISDR supplemented the “seed funds” from DGF Track I with earmarked or un-earmarked resources from its donors.

Adjustments over five years sought to ensure that the highest possible share of DGF funds was allocated to regional programmes (see Figure 1). As the region with the

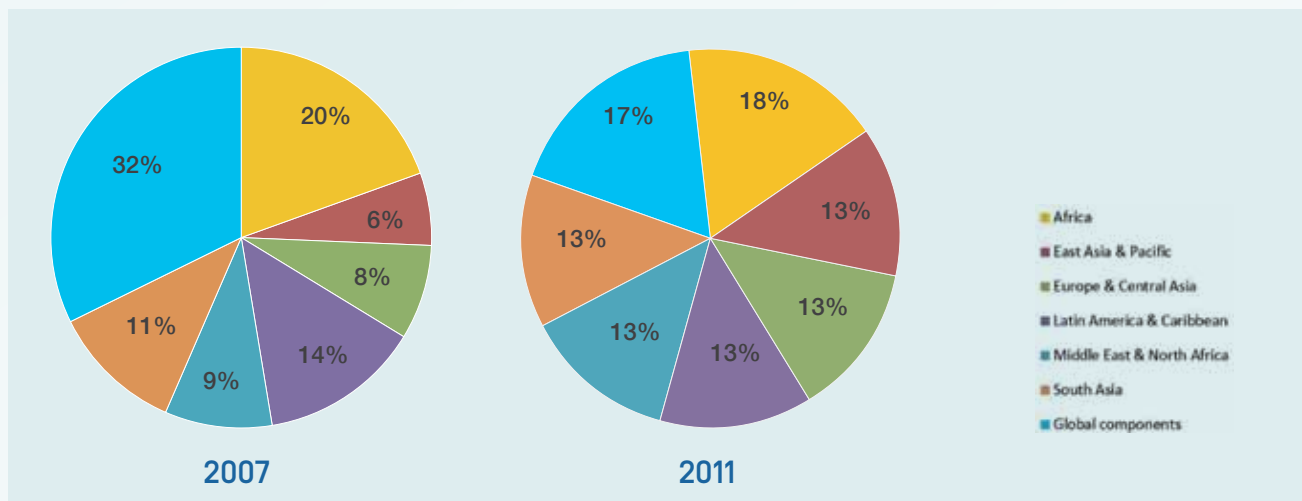
greatest need, Africa has been the largest recipient of Track I funding, complementing GFDRR’s support for national capacity and mainstreaming efforts in 9 of the 20 Track II priority countries from this region.

To ensure complementarity between UNISDR, GFDRR and World Bank programming, activities under UNISDR’s Track I annual work plan were developed and agreed together by the UNISDR, World Bank Regional Coordinators and GFDRR. UNISDR has reported on expenditure and implementation of these funds through the DGF’s programming and reporting systems, as well as through the Results Based Management System (RBMS) of the GFDRR, which has included Track I since 2009.

Table 1 - DGF Track I contributions and portion of total UNISDR income 2007-2011.

Fiscal Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
UNISDR Income (US\$m)	21.05	23.00	21.30	27.10	26.50	118.95
DGF/Track I Contribution (US\$m)	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.75	4.25	24.00
Percentage of total UNISDR Income	24%	22%	23%	18%	16%	20%

Figure 1 - Allocation of Track I funds for regional and global programmes 2007 and 2011.



4 Highlights

1. Adoption and implementation of the **ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER)**, a legally binding agreement on disaster risk reduction adopted by ASEAN member states in 2009.
2. Adoption of the **Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2010-2020**
The League of Arab States developed the Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2020 (ASDRR), which was adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment in its 22nd session, held in Cairo on 19 December 2010. The strategy was further welcomed at the 2nd Arab Summit for Socio-Economic Development in January 2011, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council of League of Arab States in its session in September 2011 and adopted at the highest political level in the Heads of States Summit in Baghdad, March 2012.
3. Enhanced regional cooperation in Africa through the adoption of the **Extended Programme of Action for the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction** by the African Union in 2010.
4. Creation of the **Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment (CAPRA)** in 2008, an innovative approach that uses disaster risk management tools to assess multi-hazard risk, including climate risk.
5. Development of the South **Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Programme (SEEDRMAP; 2007)** to build regional capacity and financing for meteorological, hydrological and climate data management.
6. Integration of disaster risk reduction into the **climate change adaptation and sustainable development agendas** in the Bali Action Plan (UNFCCC, 2007), the Cancun Declaration (UNFCCC, COP16, 2010) and the Rio+20 Conference Report (July 2012).
7. Creation of the **South Asia Disaster Knowledge Network (SADKN)** in 2011 by the SAARC Disaster Management Centre to facilitate knowledge exchange across South Asia.
8. Launch of the **Global Assessment Report for Disaster Risk Reduction** in 2009, focusing on the nexus between disaster risk, climate change and poverty.
9. Evolution of **PreventionWeb** [www.preventionweb.net] as a knowledge platform to map and disseminate information on disaster risk reduction efforts across the world.
10. Launch of **multi stakeholder campaigns** to build disaster resilience- Safe Schools, Safe Hospitals and Making Cities Resilient: "My City is Getting Ready"



5 Achievements

The overall aims of Track I can be summarised under four main headings, the first three of which are adapted from the overarching UNISDR Strategic Framework, and the fourth captures efforts to link Track I [global and regional initiatives] with Track II [national level action]:

- (i) **Leadership and Coordination**
- (ii) **Credible Evidence**
- (iii) **Advocacy and Outreach**
- (iv) **Linking Global, Regional and National Action**

Examples of achievements under these headings are shared below. A full series of Regional Profiles have been developed to accompany this report detailing Track I activities over 2007-2011, and can be found on the UNISDR website: www.unisdr.org.

(i) Leadership and Coordination

Coordination and facilitation lies at the heart of Track I. Overall, Track I has supported the implementation and coordination of the ISDR and Hyogo Framework for Action and improved coherence with climate change adaptation and sustainable development objectives such as the MDGs.

With their influence and outreach to regional and national stakeholders, **regional and subregional inter-governmental organizations** are the cornerstone of regional leadership and coordination. Engagement and strengthening of these regional institutions has therefore been a core priority under Track I. Actors such as the

African Union (AU) and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), East African Community (EAC), and Southern African Development Community (SADC) in Africa; South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC); Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Secretariat of the Pacific Community - Applied Geoscience and Technology Division (SOPAC) in Asia and Pacific; Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPRENAC); Organization of American States (OAS) in Latin America and the Caribbean; and League of Arab States (LAS) in the Arab region were engaged and supported. Track I provided catalytic funding for knowledge events such as the Climate Outlook Forums in Africa, capacity development of regional and sub-regional organizations such as trainings in the Global Education and Training Institute in Incheon, and technical advice and consultancies such as disaster risk reduction assessments in a number of countries of Americas such as Chile, Dominican Republic and Uruguay.

Joint work between UNISDR and these regional actors included the establishment and regular organization of **Regional Ministerial Conferences and Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction** in almost all regions², and promotion of National Platforms as an important element of the often painstaking process of building political awareness, leadership and ownership

2. Examples of regional engagements supported by UNISDR and involving Track I funding include:

- Second African Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 14–16 April 2010, Nairobi, Kenya
- Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management, 1-5 August 2011, Auckland, New Zealand
- European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction, 6–8 October 2010, Stenungsund, Sweden

- Forth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 25–28 October 2010, Incheon, Republic of Korea
- Meeting of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment, December 2010, Cairo, Egypt
- Second Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction for The Americas, 14–17 March 2011, Nuevo Vallarta, Nayarit, Mexico

for disaster risk reduction and the Hyogo Framework for Action. Political statements and undertakings by Ministers enabled cooperation to be forged in the form of regional strategies and action plans for disaster risk reduction in all regions, generating 'significant momentum' for the implementation of the HFA and disaster risk reduction in general³. Results of regional engagements supported by Track I include:

- Implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), a legally binding agreement adopted by ASEAN member states in 2009,
- Extended Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction adopted by the African Union in 2010,
- The League of Arab States developed the Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2020 (ASDRR), which was adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment in its 22nd session, held in Cairo on 19 December 2010. The strategy was further welcomed at the 2nd Arab Summit for Socio-Economic Development in January 2011, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council of League of Arab States in its session in September 2011 and adopted at the highest political level in the Heads of States Summit in Baghdad, March 2012,
- Central American Policy for Integral Disaster Risk Management (PCGIR) adopted in 2010 by SICA/CEPRENAC.

The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, organized by UNISDR biennially since 2007, provided the space for the regional priorities to influence and support the global disaster risk reduction movement. Since its initiation, the Global Platform has become the world's foremost gathering of stakeholders for stocktaking, information exchange, knowledge sharing and partnership building on DRR across sectors. As a demonstration of the collaboration between the UNISDR and the World Bank, the first World Reconstruction Conference (organized by the World Bank through GFDRR) was integrated into the Third Session of the Global Platform in 2011.

(ii) Credible Evidence

Track I has supported efforts to produce and disseminate credible evidence to strengthen decision making at local, national, regional and global levels. Information briefs, risk assessments, databases, and knowledge networks are critical for understanding shared risks and potential impacts as a basis for risk-sensitive development planning, including for cross-boundary hazards and resultant disasters.

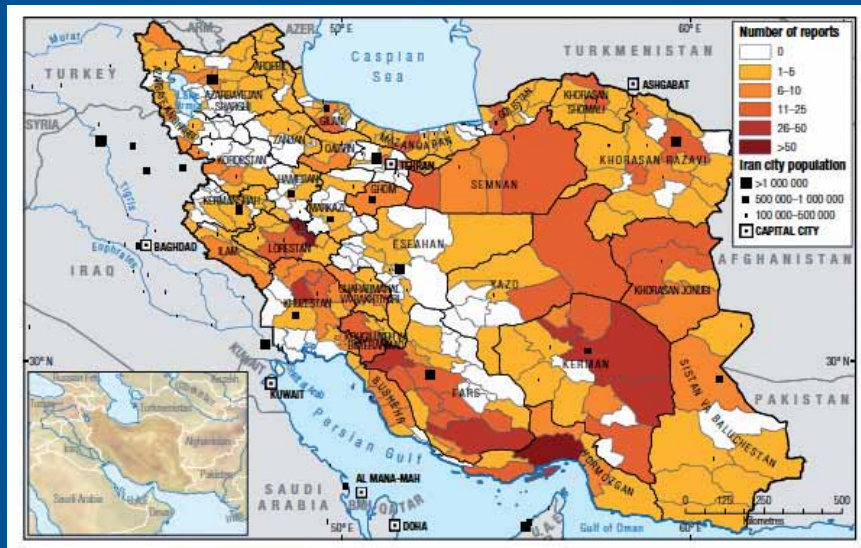
The development and effective use of information requires the creation of forums for cooperation amongst experts, academics, professionals with government Ministers and officials responsible for planning, finance and development sectors (water, education, health, urban planning, environment, etc.). The knowledge and tools of disaster risk reduction developed by UNISDR and partners ensure that



The Third Session of the Global Platform

included the first World Reconstruction Conference (hosted by the World Bank). The sessions of the World Reconstruction Conference have been integrated into the overall Global Platform programme and schedule. Joint efforts by UNISDR and the World Bank to organize the event were a good reflection of our continued collaboration and recognition of the importance of disaster risk reduction.

3. GAR 2011, p 72 and Mid-Term Review of the HFA 2011, p 10



Extensive loss reports in Iran associated with earthquakes

[Global Assessment Report 2009]

technology, training and comparative learning from regions and countries can enhance planning and implementation.

Credible evidence initiatives funded under Track I 2007-11 include support to **Regional and Trans-Boundary Risk Assessments**. Examples range from the Synthesis Report: Disaster Risk Assessments in Ten ASEAN Countries (2010) as part of UNISDR's support to the work programme of the binding ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), to the Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment (CAPRA) initiated in January 2008 as a partnership between CEPRE- DENAC, UNISDR, the Inter-American Development (IADB) and the World Bank that became a flagship programme with an impact reaching beyond its original base in Central America. A further example is the South Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Programme (SEEDRMAP), which is an innovative DRR programme focused on (i) hydro-meteorological forecasting, data and early warning; (ii) coordination of disaster mitigation, preparedness and response; (iii) and, financing of disaster losses, reconstruction, recovery and disaster risk transfer. SEEDRMAP has resulted in additional donor support for the region as well as for the United Nations family and UNISDR, and increased bilateral cooperation and support, such as a cooperation agreement between the Republic of Moldova and Finland.

Development and sharing of technical information is supported through **Regional Knowledge Networks**, such as the South Asia Disaster Knowledge Network (SADKN), which was launched in 2011 by the SAARC Disaster

Management Centre (SDMC). The development of the network had been supported through Track I since 2009. It facilitates interaction, dialogue and coordination among stakeholders in the SAARC member states and provides a live repository for disaster reduction information, data, reports and good practices to serve and build the DRR community across South Asia.

The building of credible evidence has also taken the form of **Thematic Studies**, including the 2010 Technical assessment study of Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) risks in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region, which was carried out by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) to support inter-country dialogue, development of appropriate policies and generation of required investments.

Finally, flagship networking and research initiatives at the global level included the **Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction**, a pioneering initiative coordinated by UNISDR, in cooperation with key ISDR system partners. The 2009 GAR, partly supported by Track I, was a clarion call for disaster risk reduction as an intrinsic part of sustainable development with its "focus on the nexus of disaster risk and poverty in a context of global climate change". It was cited and used in key publications, including in the path-breaking 2012 Special Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX). Together, GAR 2009 and GAR 2011 triggered national level action, such as disaster

risk reduction assessments in Colombia and Mexico and the development of loss databases in 16 countries. Track I funding in 2010 contributed to improved risk application through the UNEP-University of Geneva PREVIEW Platform. It also supported the revision of the HFA Monitor - a self-assessment tool for national as well as regional organizations to measure their progress in implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action. This stimulated the preparation of National and Regional Progress Reports, with numbers rising from 62 reports in 2007 to 82 in 2009, and 133 reports in 2011 - all of which served as inputs to the GAR.

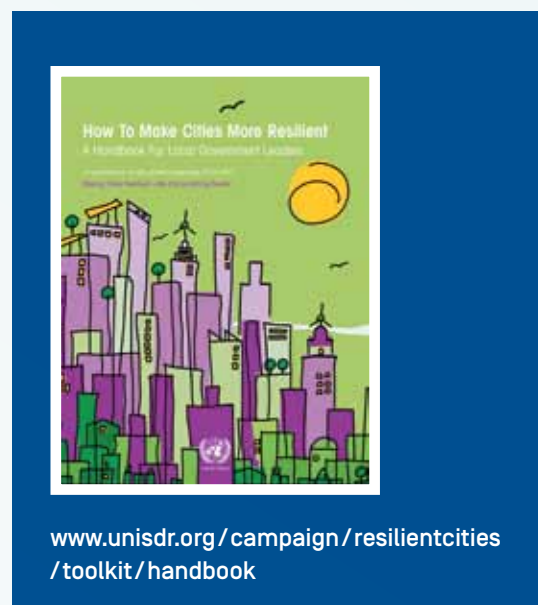
Launched in 2008 with seed funding from Track I, **PreventionWeb** (www.preventionweb.net) is a global level portal for disaster risk reduction housed by UNISDR in Geneva. The site serves the information needs of the disaster reduction community by providing a platform for information sharing, advocacy, networking and collaboration for specialists and non-specialists alike. In 2011, it welcomed an average of over 56,000 visitors per month, thus a quadrupling of visits since 2008. 25,000 visitors use the site more than twice a week and over 3,000 users have subscribed to the email alert services. A recent evaluation of PreventionWeb, found that 'over the four years PreventionWeb has been operating, it has played a unique and key role supporting and informing the evolution [of disaster risk reduction to a major global priority issue]. PreventionWeb has led the 'mapping' of the disaster risk reduction domain' ... and 'established itself as the pre-eminent global generalist, content aggregation site for disaster risk reduction'.⁴

(iii) Advocacy and Outreach

Global recognition of the crucial **inter-linkage between disaster risk and climate change** and the need to integrate both into development planning is a key building block for resilient nations and communities. UNISDR and partners, with support from Track I, has been critically engaged in the inclusion of disaster risk reduction in global processes and agreements, such as the Bali Action Plan (UNFCCC, 2007), the Cancun Declaration (UNFCCC, COP16, 2010) and the Rio+20 Conference Report in July 2012. Parallel to these global efforts, UNISDR regional offices and World Bank regional teams and country offices have been actively engaged in advocating for the integration of disaster risk and climate change into regional and national policies and legislation. Examples include joint legislation for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in the Philippines and Guatemala.

The **ISDR World Disaster Reduction Campaigns** including: Safe Schools (2006-2007), Safe Hospitals (2008-2009) and Making Cities Resilient: "My City is Getting Ready" (2010 - 2015) represent other critical components of the UNISDR advocacy and outreach work. The campaigns, partly supported through Track I, aim to increase public awareness and understanding of disaster risk and climate change adaptation, and to mobilise commitment and investment for disaster risk reduction at national and community levels. By June 2012, over 1050 cities and municipalities around the world had signed up to the Ten Essentials of the Making Cities Resilient campaign. The commitments include participatory organization, assigned budget for risk reduction, maintenance of critical infrastructure such as flood drainage, schools and hospitals, and improved urban planning, infrastructure and building safety. As part of this initiative, a One Million Safe Schools and Hospitals Campaign was launched in Asia Pacific in 2010, with support from Track I and the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management. By June 2012, more than 189,000 schools and hospitals had made a range of commitments to ensure safety, from safety inspections to actual investment for reducing risks.

Track I has helped to create space to enable key stakeholders including legislators, mayors, policy-makers, government officials, journalists, experts and disaster risk reduction champions to share experiences and knowledge, advocate for resources, and create policy frameworks to drive national action.



4. Preventionweb Evaluation, p xii

Essentials

Ten-point Checklist – Essentials for Making Cities Resilient

- ✓ **Essential 1:** Put in place **organization and coordination** to understand and reduce disaster risk, based on participation of citizen groups and civil society. Build local alliances. Ensure that all departments understand their role to disaster risk reduction and preparedness.
- ✓ **Essential 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.
- ✓ **Essential 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.
- ✓ **Essential 4:** Invest in and maintain **critical infrastructure that reduces risk**, such as flood drainage, adjusted where needed to cope with climate change.
- ✓ **Essential 5:** Assess the safety of all **schools and health facilities** and upgrade these as necessary.
- ✓ **Essential 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.
- ✓ **Essential 7:** Ensure **education programmes and training** on disaster risk reduction are in place in schools and local communities.
- ✓ **Essential 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.
- ✓ **Essential 9:** Install **early warning systems and emergency management capacities** in your city and hold regular public preparedness drills.
- ✓ **Essential 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.

www.unisdr.org/campaign/resilientcities/toolkit/essentials



United Nations Photo

Exposed to high-tides and storm surge, a community prepares to plant mangrove trees to provide a natural barrier.

(iv) Linking Global, Regional and National Action (Track I and Track II)

Although five years is a short time in which to catalyse and sustain change, there is evidence that regional advocacy and networking is driving national action, and that Track I is indeed supporting and driving Track II at three levels:

1. **Supporting policy** dialogue to frame regional commitments, resource mobilization and knowledge for strengthened national level action.
2. Generating **shared risk analyses and awareness** at regional, cross-border, and national levels to build the knowledge that can influence aid and investments.
3. Harnessing **global and regional advocacy and partnerships** to open up fiscal space for national investments in risk mitigation and disaster risk reduction.

Regional and sub-regional feasibility studies, risk assessments and increased awareness have in some cases driven demand for public investments in disaster resilient infrastructure, early warning systems, and expanding institutional capacities and financial mechanisms to manage risks at national level. Examples include:

In Africa, Track I assisted ECOWAS to support member states including The Gambia, Ghana and Togo to develop and refine disaster risk reduction policies particularly with regard to integrating climate change adaptation. In the

cases of Ghana and Togo this support complemented Track II-funded programmes focussed on the cross-border issue of flood mitigation. There has also been cross-fertilization of Track I support to SADC and Track II support to Mozambique for improved flood management on the Zambezi River.

In Asia, the ASEAN risk assessment study created a roadmap for risk assessment in the region and generated requests from the Philippines (Track II priority country) and Myanmar (benefited from Track III post-disaster needs assessment and recovery planning support after Tropical Cyclone Nargis) to set up national loss databases. The disaster loss databases and assessments are preconditions for a new regional initiative – the Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance initiative. This was taken forward in November 2011, when Track I funding supported a forum for the ASEAN on this initiative in Jakarta.

In the Middle East and North Africa Region, Track I provided technical assistance and support to Yemen and Djibouti (both Track II countries) to facilitate the establishment of national disaster losses databases. UNISDR also co-facilitated a training workshop in Djibouti on integrating disaster risk reduction, environmental sustainability and climate change in the new CCA/UNDAF 2013-17.

In Europe, the development of the South Eastern Europe and Caucasus Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CRIF) has promoted disaster risk reduction investment at national level by enabling countries to share risk at the regional level.



Photo: EU Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

6. Future Perspectives – 2013 and Beyond

Looking forward, accelerated action to reduce and manage disaster risk will depend on the cooperation and collaboration between a much wider range of actors involved in development, climate change, disaster risk reduction and humanitarian assistance, working within their own mandates and constituencies. The UNISDR-World Bank partnership forged through GFDRR Track I has proven a good example of such collaboration and should be strengthened.

Although DGF Track I financing is scheduled to phase out in FY 2013, both GFDRR and UNISDR remain committed to a lasting partnership, based on a strong mutual recognition of respective comparative advantages, resources and expertise. The following elements have been agreed as key areas for deepening cooperation in the coming years.

1. UNISDR, GFDRR and World Bank regional DRM teams will continue to strengthen **coordination at regional level** and strive to support Inter-Governmental Regional Organizations and networks that share knowledge, develop regional disaster risk reduction policies and strategies, and create enabling environments for disaster risk reduction mainstreaming at national level.
2. GFDRR will support **global policy development efforts** led by UNISDR leading towards a new global framework for disaster risk reduction and resilience once the Hyogo Framework for Action ends in 2015. This process presents a unique opportunity to ensure that disaster risk reduction is elevated as a core developmental priority and will feed into parallel processes to shape the post-2015 development agenda, building on the Rio+20 outcomes on sustainable development, and climate change agreements. UNISDR, in partnership with international stakeholders including GFDRR and the World Bank will work to ensure that disaster risk reduction is a priority in all of these policy frameworks and is fully integrated in institutional and sector practices.
3. **The biennial Global Assessment Report (GAR)**, developed by UNISDR, is the authoritative report on the state of disaster risk and its management worldwide. GFDRR will contribute technical expertise and information in the areas of risk assessment (for example through experiences gained through the Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment - CAPRA and the Global Earthquake Model - GEM, and work on resilience analysis), economic impacts of disasters and benefits of risk management (following on joint efforts resulting in the report Natural Hazards, UnNatural Disasters: The Economics of Effective Prevention), including the identification of comprehensive risk financing strategies, and promoting access to, and understanding of, risk information to support resilient decision making by communities and governments (for example, the Open Data for Resilience Initiative or OpenDRI).
4. In order to optimize resourcing of regional and national efforts in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, a better understanding and **tracking of international financial commitments** for disaster risk reduction is needed. The Disaster Aid Tracking (DAT) initiative aims to build a global system to track ODA investments in DRR, post-disaster recovery and reconstruction. Current systems, for example that of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC), require refinement for enhanced and targeted investment tracking. Following joint advocacy efforts by UNISDR, GFDRR and the OECD DAC for the integration of disaster risk reduction into



development at the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation in December 2011, UNISDR has worked with the OECD DAC to shape a dedicated program of work on disaster risk and resilience. Through this programme, the OECD will work together with the UNISDR, GFDRR and other partners to develop policy guidance and tools for more effective management of disaster risks in development aid. The UNISDR and GFDRR will continue to work with donors and the OECD to improve reporting methodologies for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in current and future disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation financing, and to analyze trends to help target investments in-line with national priorities and international commitments.

5. Both UNISDR and GFDRR work with an extensive range of **civil society** partners. The process of developing GFDRR's civil society strategy has been supported by UNISDR. The two secretariats will continue to cooperate to strengthen civil society engagement in DRM with the development and implementation of GFDRR's civil society strategy, through targeted country-level engagements, beginning with the 2-year pilot phase, as well as the inclusion and promotion of civil society in global and regional initiatives such as the Global Platform and Regional Platforms.

6. GFDRR and UNISDR will seek to develop a number of **technical and thematic partnerships**. These will include the development of tools and advocacy to strengthen urban resilience, building on UNISDR's Making Cities Resilient Campaign, as well as safe schools and safe hospitals, amplifying existing multi-stakeholder initiatives. The outcome of these efforts will be disseminated through knowledge sharing platforms such as PreventionWeb and the Global Platform.

Translating the achievements of global and regional and policy commitments, knowledge and resources into national and community level actions must be at the heart of second generation planning for the UNISDR-GFDRR/World Bank partnership. The challenge is to sustain the momentum of global and regional partnerships, knowledge generation and policy platforms, particularly in tracking and encouraging stronger links to country development plans, in terms of policy adoption, actions, and financing at the national level.



Following floods and landslides in Santa Catarina [2008] and Rio de Janeiro [2011] Brazil has established a new Centre of Excellence for Disaster Risk Reduction together with UNISDR in Rio de Janeiro.

Acronyms

AADMER	ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU	African Union
CAPRA	Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment
CCA/UNDAF	Common Country Assessment (CCA) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)
CCRIF	Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility
CEPREDENAC	Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America
COP 16	Conference of the Parties
DGF	World Bank's Development Grant Facility
EAC	East African Community
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
GAR	Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
HFA:	Hyogo Framework for Action: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
LAS	League of Arab States
OAS	Organization of American States
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PCGIR	Central American Policy for Integral Disaster Risk Management
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SADKN	South Asia Disaster Knowledge Network
SDMC	SAARC Disaster Management Centre
SEEDRMAP	South Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaption Programme
SOPAC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community - Applied Geo-science and Technology Division
SRFF	Standby Recovery Financing Facility
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNISDR	United Nations secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

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