

**UNISDR Secretariat Action Pledge to
UNFCCC Nairobi Work Programme**
Submitted 10 March 2009

This action pledge is made by the Secretariat of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). The UNISDR Secretariat supports the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) System in implementing the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters* and in building a culture of prevention in society as part of sustainable development. The Hyogo Framework, which provides the foundation for the global implementation of disaster risk reduction, was agreed at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in January 2005, in Kobe, Japan, by Governments and subsequently endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly.

The UNISDR Secretariat's activities on climate change adaptation aim to:

1. Achieve recognition, understanding and specific policies at the **international level** on the synergies between reducing disaster risk and responding to climate change.
2. Mobilize, guide and facilitate action at **national and regional levels** to integrate disaster reduction and climate change policies and practice.
3. Strengthen the capacities of **ISDR System partners** to support the integration of disaster reduction and climate change by all actors.

The UNISDR Secretariat encourages ISDR System partners, which include Governments, United Nations System, regional bodies, international financial institutions and non-governmental actors, to pledge action to the Nairobi Work Programme (NWP) in their own areas of expertise. This action pledge commits the Secretariat to share the ISDR System's knowledge in reducing risk to adapt to climate change and responds to the Calls for Action under several of the Nairobi Work Programme's (NWP) work areas, including:

- Climate variability and extreme events
- Socio-economic information
- Adaptation planning in and across sectors
- Adaptation planning at various levels
- Methodologies and tools

The UNISDR Secretariat pledges the following in each of these areas:

Climate variability and extreme events

To support UNFCCC Parties' understanding of the link between disaster risk reduction and adaptation and build capacity:

- ✓ Host a high-level panel on climate change at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, 16-19 June 2009, and promote participants' commitment to practical action at national level to support climate change negotiators.
- ✓ Sponsor climate change focal points to participate in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

- ✓ Co-sponsor the NWP “Technical workshop on integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies into national policies and programmes”, 10-12 March 2009, Havana, Cuba.
- ✓ Sponsor disaster risk reduction experts to participate in and support their Government delegations in relevant UNFCCC meetings, 2009.
- ✓ Support the participation of five Latin American and Caribbean climate change adaptation focal points to the ILO/DELNET course “Disaster Risk Reduction within Local Sustainable Development”, which includes climate change issues, 2009.
- ✓ Translate into Spanish and Arabic relevant disaster risk reduction publications for distribution among climate change focal points, and translate relevant climate change publications (including relevant NWP documents) to build capacity of disaster risk reduction managers to support integration at national level, 2009.

To assess the costs and benefits of adaptation options:

- ✓ Disseminate to climate change audience the findings of technical studies of the economics of disaster risk reduction produced by World Bank in collaboration with UNISDR Secretariat, 2009.

To advance the use of insurance-related instruments for coping with climate variability and change:

- ✓ Prepare with ISDR System partners a briefing note for Parties on opportunities and constraints of insurance as an instrument for reducing disaster risk, 2009.

Socio-economic information

To analyze impact and adaptation studies and document good practices:

- ✓ Prepare for a climate change audience a briefing note on the relevant findings of the *2009 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction* identifying risk data and disaster trends as well as documenting Government progress in reducing disaster risk.

Adaptation planning and practices at various levels and within and across sectors

To support development of legal and institutional frameworks to enhance cross-sectoral collaboration on adaptation, using existing platforms to bring together sectoral stakeholders:

- ✓ Support the development of adaptation strategies in Vietnam, India and Indonesia that take advantage of existing disaster risk reduction institutions, policies and mechanisms at various levels through high-level advocacy and co-sponsorship of relevant coordination events.
- ✓ Support the development of Peru’s Guidelines for the National Adaptation Strategy to include disaster risk reduction.
- ✓ Assist West Asia and North Africa region countries in identifying suitable adaptive strategies and actions to climate change by facilitating exchange of expertise and experience on disaster risk reduction and adaptation, producing a regional climate change and disaster risk reduction review and organizing a regional expert workshop on climate change and disaster risk reduction.

- ✓ Prepare analysis of barriers and bridges to integrating risk reduction measures in adaptation plans at municipal and national levels based on case studies, 2009.
- ✓ Build upon regional networks' activities on risk reduction by including climate change adaptation in workshop agendas, such as the Second Africa Regional Platform meeting and the Second African Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2009.

To reduce vulnerability in urban areas:

- ✓ Disseminate at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction the *2008 Primer for Climate Resilient Cities: Reducing vulnerabilities to climate change impacts and strengthening disaster risk management in East Asian cities*, produced by the World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction and UNISDR.
- ✓ Disseminate to Asian and Pacific city government officials the *2008 Primer for Climate Resilient Cities*, in collaboration with various partners.
- ✓ Disseminate *City Profile: Climate and Disaster Resilience*, produced by Kyoto University with UNISDR, CITYNET, UNU and RTF-URR, featuring climate risk analysis and sector analysis of 15 Asian cities.

Methodologies and tools:

- ✓ Support activities at regional meetings in Americas-region to share disaster risk reduction methods and tools with climate change adaptation practitioners and climate change methods and tools with disaster risk reduction practitioners, in collaboration with ISDR System partners.