



UNISDR

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



WMO

**Building Resilience to Disasters in
Western Balkans and Turkey**

Building Resilience to Disasters in Western Balkans and Turkey

Kick-off Meeting

Zagreb, Croatia, 30 August 2012

UNISDR Component

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Vulnerability in Europe

- 2010 the biggest increase in disaster occurrence (+18.2%) compared to the decade's average;
- Europe accounted for 14.3% of the global reported losses in 2010 accounting for more than US \$ 15 billions;
- The Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction released in 2011 indicates that in OECD countries the risk of economic losses is now growing faster than their average GDP growth;
- Most of the damages are due to climatological and hydrometeorological events;

Reduced number of Human but High Economic Losses



Building Resilience to Disasters in
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The Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: *Building the resilience of Nations and Communities to disasters*

Overall objective: *to substantially reduce disaster losses, in lives, social, economic and environmental assets*

Three strategic goals

- i. The integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning.
- ii. The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards.
- iii. The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency





The HFA 5 Priorities of Action and the project

- 1. Make disaster risk reduction a priority:** *Ensure that DRR is a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation. (Project contributes to institutional capacity building through peers' exchanges and training of governmental officers)*
- 2. Know the risks and take actions:** *Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks – and enhance early warning (Project WMO component)*
- 3. Build understanding and awareness:** *Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience (Project contributes to knowledge sharing through technological means – web portal on DRR knowledge management – and translation of key documents in local languages as well as awareness of risks at local level)*
- 4. Reduce risks:** *Reduce the underlying risk factors (The project contributes to promote local capacities for wise disaster proof investments at community level and at regional and national level strengthens the capacities in disaster risk transfers through insurance and re-insurance tools)*
- 5. Be prepared and ready to act:** *Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels (Project WMO component)*



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UNISDR is the designated focal point in the UN system for the coordination of disaster reduction.

Core functions:

- ✓ **coordinate international efforts in DRR**, and guides, monitors and reports on the progress of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;
- ✓ **campaign to create global awareness** of disaster risk reduction benefits and empower people to reduce their vulnerability to hazards;
- ✓ **advocate for greater investments** in disaster risk reduction to protect people's lives and assets, and for increased and informed participation of men and women in reducing disaster risk;
- ✓ **Inform/connect** by providing practical services and tools such as PreventionWeb, publications on good practices, and by leading the preparation of the Global Assessment Report on DRR and the organisation of the Global Platform for DRR.



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Addressing the challenges in DRR emerged at the Global Platform for DRR 2011 (GPDRR2011)



Global Platform
for Disaster Risk Reduction
Third Session, Geneva, Switzerland
8 - 13 May 2011

Increase investment in DRR at the local level [...] and encourage collaboration with communities [...] (GPDRR 2011 Chair Summary, page 2 par 8.2)

- ✓ The project promotes the “Making Cities Resilient Campaign” among the IPA beneficiaries and provides capacities for local decision makers.

[...] Protect public finances with contingency mechanisms, including insurance (GPDRR 2011 Chair Summary, page 3 par 8.5)

- ✓ The project supports penetration of disaster insurance among homeowners and Small-medium enterprises

[...] Use available communication technologies to provide clear and concise information (GPDRR 2011 Chair Summary, page 3 par 8.5)

- ✓ The project supports the development of a web-based knowledge management system in multiple languages for DRR effective information sharing



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Addressing the challenges emerged from the Global Assessment Report (GAR) 2011

The GAR 2011 informs that there are low investments to reduce vulnerabilities though there is a growing evidence that DRR produce cost-effective investments while in most of European countries the risk of losing wealth in weather-related disasters is increasing faster than that wealth is being created.

- ✓ The project supports risk assessments, data management, national and local capacity building which are policy drivers to achieve increase of national and local investments in DRR.

The GAR 2011 informs that disaster insurance is effective to transfer risks from individual/governments to the financial markets, however investments in DRR are necessary to create a conducive environment for the private insurance sector to operate at national and local level.

- ✓ The project supports the capacities of insurance regulators and agents to promote disaster insurance and make citizens aware of insurance tools for reducing the risk of losses due to disasters.





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Monitoring the implementation of the HFA in Europe

2009 & 2011: European regional reports of the implementation of the HFA:

- Analysis of the HFA monitor reports of 22 European countries and 6 Regional Organizations (EC, EUR-OPA, RCC SEE, DPPI SEE, CEUDIP, A European Network for National Platforms) including *Albania, Croatia, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey*.
- Useful guidance document in providing an overview of the ongoing disaster risk reduction activities in Europe
- Revealing of gaps in resource use and capacities, pointing out of untapped potentials
- Recommendations for European policy makers on how to make DRR investments more cost-effective.
- Main findings: i) National Platforms for DRR are having an impact on mainstreaming DRR approaches ii) EC and EU (with other regional organizations) have been responsive to the needs identified in the 2009 report.



The project planning phases considered the HFA national reports from IPA beneficiaries when designing its focus areas which were designed to address the highlighted needs and gaps.



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Focus on South Eastern Europe – The SEEDRMAP

South Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Programme

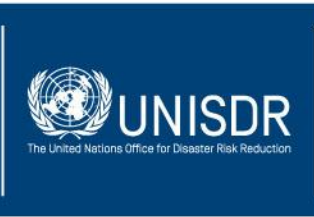
SEEDRMAP developed by UNISDR and the World Bank in collaboration with other partners (such as WMO for the hydrometeorological component)

It includes three focus areas:

1. Hydrometeorological forecasting, data sharing and early warning;
2. Coordination of disaster mitigation, preparedness and response;
3. Financing of disaster losses, reconstruction and recovery, and disaster risk transfer (disaster insurance).



The following countries are part of this initiative: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,.



Building Resilience to Disasters in Western Balkans and Turkey

Focus on South Eastern Europe – The SEEDRMAP

The following SEEDRMAP products and achievements contributed to the project planning phase:

- Reviews, studies and report which highlighted the existing gaps and needs at the regional and national level to be addressed.
- Findings of SEEDRMAP used in the previous phase of the IPA MB Programme implemented by UNDP and WMO and in the current phase during the project design.
- Establishment of Europa Re – governing body of the South Eastern Europe and Caucasus Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (SEEC CRIF).

The project benefited from the data, information and recommendations emerged from SEEDRMAP knowledge products and built upon existing result of the programme such as the SEEC CRIF.





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The new Project – UNISDR Focus areas



1. Enhance the regional institutional capacity and coordination on to disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change.



2. Strengthen the regional capacity and cooperation towards data and knowledge sharing on risks.



3. Promote disaster risk transfer through insurance and reinsurance products.



4. Increase public awareness in disaster risk reduction



Building Resilience to Disasters in Western Balkans and Turkey

The main challenges to be addressed

- ✓ Institutional capacity
 - strengthening governmental officers capacities through peers' exchange with their counterparts in selected EU countries
- ✓ Knowledge sharing and dissemination
 - supporting the development of a web-based knowledge management system and translations of relevant DRR documents/publications in local languages
- ✓ Low level of penetration of disaster insurance
 - supporting the development of the SEEC CRIF and citizen awareness of disaster insurance products
- ✓ Local government capacities and community disaster risk awareness
 - supporting the implementation of the “Making Cities Resilient Campaign: My City is Getting Ready!”

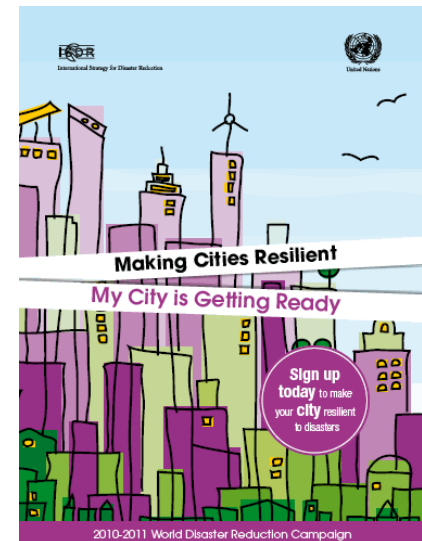




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Building on existing opportunities

- ✓ The IPA beneficiaries countries will be able to contribute and share their experiences in European DRR fora such the European Forum for DRR (European Regional Platform for DRR)
- ✓ Regionally owned initiatives such as DPPI SEE will host the project supported web portal for DRR knowledge and information sharing – considered a role model for other sub/regions and regions.
- ✓ The participation of the IPA beneficiaries to the Europa Re disaster insurance scheme with a regional approach, make them a leading example in Europe in the use of innovative approach to disaster risk transfer.
- ✓ The «Making Cities Resilient Campaign: My City is Getting Ready!» gives tools for sharing practical knowledge among cities. SEE will have the opportunity of sharing their local level achievements and challenges.





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Partners

The World Bank

*(for the disaster
insurance component)*

DPPI SEE

*(for the DRR
knowledge sharing
component)*