

## **Recommendations from the Turkey National Policy Dialogue**

Based on the detailed assessments of the DRR policies and practices as well as the NMHS capacities, gaps and needs in the beneficiaries to support DRR, policy recommendations were developed. Initial results were presented to national stakeholders for review and discussions during National Policy Dialogues organised by WMO together with the UNDP in Ankara, 11-12 October 2010. During this meeting, high-level participants endorsed the assessment, as well as the set of recommendations emanating from it and presented hereunder.

### **HFA priority 1: Ensure that disaster risk reduction (DRR) is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation**

**Recommendation 1:** To improve and strengthen national and local government mechanisms to institutionalize lessons learned from previous disasters and incorporate them into DRR policy, planning and programming in Turkey.

**Recommendation 2:** To facilitate and support establishment of mirrored/similar/same mechanisms at the county and local self-government levels through strengthening and reinforcing local capacities, institutions, and governance capabilities.

**Recommendation 3:** To establish a “National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction”.

### **HFA priority 2: Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning**

**Recommendation 4:** To establish and invest in fully operational 24/7 hydro-meteorological services (technical and human resources) as well as in the seismological sector to support risk assessment and early warning systems and promote operational monitoring, warning, forecasting and mapping of meteorological, hydrological and seismological hazards.

**Recommendation 5:** To prescribe a new law for hydro-meteorological services in Turkey.

**Recommendation 6:** To create appropriate mechanisms to increase coordination between the three hydro-meteorological organizations as a short term action.

**Recommendation 7:** To strengthen technical and human resources of the Meteorological, Hydrological, and Seismological Services in operational monitoring, warning, forecasting and mapping of seismological, hydrological, meteorological and ecological risks, and also enhance the modernization and improvement of the monitoring networks and data transmission systems.

**Recommendation 8:** To enhance the early warning system and interoperability of the System 112 through modernization of the continuous and real-time collection and information sharing by expanding the hydrological, meteorological and air-quality monitoring networks, establishing integrated fire-protection system and ensuring functional horizontal and vertical links among all disaster risk reduction actors.

**Recommendation 9:** To further strengthen operational cooperation of the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, Hydrological and Meteorological Services through joint training and improvements to the standard operating procedures across agencies linked to the different threat levels and lessons learnt from each disaster event.

**Recommendation 10:** To integrate policy, planning and programming in adaptation to climate change with DRR strategy.

### **HFA priority 3: Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels**

**Recommendation 11:** To integrate DRR into the education system in Turkey at all levels –primary, secondary, and university.

**Recommendation 12:** To increase the awareness of the citizens and media regarding the early warning system and the European Emergency Number 112.

**Recommendation 13:** The Ministry for National Education is mandated to mainstream disaster risk reduction into national educational curriculum by establishing Curriculum Revision Working Group composed of the representatives from the Ministry for National Education and Sport, from the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency Meteorological and Hydrological Service, Universities, other respective line Ministries, the Turkish Red Crescent Society, expert organizations and individuals.

**Recommendation 14:** To establish a National Training Centre for DRR and disaster and emergency management practitioners and community members, using the existing European Natural Disaster Training Center (AFEM) and/or Disaster and Emergency Training Center at DEMP as a foundation.

**Recommendation 15:** To proceed with the establishment, in Turkey, of the Centre of Excellence for a Training of Fire Fighters and coordination of response to forest fires in the countries of South Eastern Europe, including the harmonization of the development of fire-fighting brigades in the countries of the region through standardization of equipment and procedures, thus promoting regional cooperation and collaboration in disaster risk reduction in South Eastern Europe.

#### **HFA priority 4: Reduce the underlying risk factors**

**Recommendation 16:** To systematically integrate measures aimed at reducing disaster risks into policies, plans and programs for sustainable development and poverty reduction.

**Recommendation 17:** To support the development of studies and research around the reduction of specific risk factors that affect Turkey.

**Recommendation 18:** To develop national capacities for climate (hydrological and meteorological) and geological (including seismological) services to support medium and long-term sectoral planning, as a critical aspect of disaster risk reduction.

**Recommendation 19:** Enhanced investments are needed in climate data rescue, climate and geological modelling, forecasting and analysis to support sectoral planning in at-risk sectors.

**Recommendation 20:** To improve networking with international institutions present in the region and to promote the increased involvement of such organizations in the strengthening of DRR in Turkey.

**Recommendation 21:** To develop national capacities for climate services to support medium and long-term sectoral planning through strong collaboration and cooperation across line ministries and with the Meteorological and Hydrological Service, and through enhanced regional cooperation with other South Eastern European and EU countries.

**Recommendation 22:** To enhance investments in climate modelling and forecasting and analysis to support strategic and sectoral planning for at-risk sectors.

**Recommendation 23:** To develop the disaster risk reduction Strategy and corresponding Implementation/Action Plan as a first mutual step undertaken by the key disaster risk reduction actors, e.g. the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, the Hydrological and Meteorological Service, seismological observations and survey, line Ministries and respective public enterprises, the Turkish State Meteorological Service, civil society and business community

toward integration of disaster risk reduction into the development policies, strategies and sectoral plans, followed with the implementation of the said Strategy.

**HFA priority 5: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels**

**Recommendation 24:** To strengthen disaster preparedness for effective emergency response at all levels and to promote disaster prevention in Turkey.

**Recommendation 25:** To promote the engagement of the media in order to stimulate a culture of preparedness and strong community involvement through sustained public education campaigns and public consultations at all levels of society.

**Recommendation 26:** To increase the involvement of the private sector in activities aimed at DRR with special emphasis placed on insurance companies for the purpose of building on achievements already made in promoting public private partnerships (PPP) to better engage the private sector in DRR activities.

**Recommendation 27:** To strengthen regional and international links to support more effective wild fire risk preparedness and prevention in Turkey.

**Recommendation 28:** To increase the use of simulation exercises (including drills, orientations, functional and table-top exercises) as a regular feature of emergency response and preparedness training in Turkey.

**Recommendation 29:** To proceed with the establishment, in Turkey, a “National Exercise Simulation Center” (NESC) at DEMP Headquarters.