



UNISDR

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

An overview of UNISDR activities in South Eastern Europe in Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

www.unisdr.org

Workshop on Climate Change Impacts, vulnerability and Adaptation (CCIVA) in West Balkans Countries

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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.

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

- 1. Make disaster risk reduction a priority:** *Ensure that DRR is a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation*
- 2. Know the risks and take actions:** *Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks – and enhance early warning*
- 3. Build understanding and awareness:** *Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience*
- 4. Reduce risks:** *Reduce the underlying risk factors*
- 5. Be prepared and ready to act:** *Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels*

Focus on South Eastern Europe (SEE)

A. Support to the regional and national implementation of the HFA in coordination with regional and national partners.

B. Implementation of programmes and projects in SEE:

- a. *The South Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Mitigation and Adaptation Programme (SEEDRMAP)* – supported by GFDRR
- b. The UNISDR-WMO “*Building Resilience to Disasters in the Western Balkans and Turkey*” project – supported by the EC



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, etc.) 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 and in *sub-region such as SEE*
- 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.

Focus on SEE: main challenges to be addressed from the analysis of the HFA reports

- ✓ Institutional capacity
- ✓ Knowledge sharing and dissemination
- ✓ Development of climate and disaster risk transfer/financing tools (insurance and reinsurance) and **national database on disaster losses** (*Albania, Croatia, Serbia, Turkey*)
- ✓ Local government capacities and community disaster risk awareness



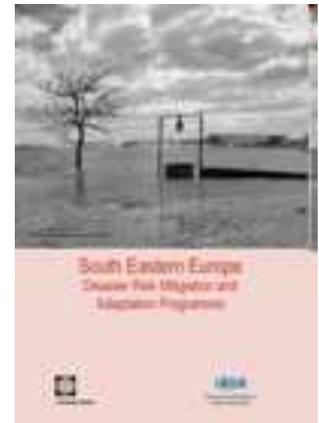
Focus on SEE – The SEEDRMAP

SEEDRMAP developed by UNISDR and the World Bank in 2007 collaboration with other partners (such as WMO for the hydrometeorological component). It is supported by GFDRR Track 1. The programme is ongoing since 2008.

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.*



Focus on SEE: “Building Resilience to Disasters in the Western Balkans and Turkey”

Overall Objective: To reduce vulnerability of IPA Beneficiaries to natural disasters, in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), and increase their resilience to climate change.

Project purpose: To enhance the capacity of IPA Beneficiaries to address disaster risk reduction in both today's and the future predicted climate.

Beneficiaries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244/99) the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Turkey

Implementing agencies: UNISDR (4 tasks) WMO (4 tasks)

Donor: EC DG Enlargement – through the Instrument for Pre- Accession Assistance (IPA) under the Regional Multi-Beneficiary Programming 2011-2013: Sector: Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction.

Implementation timeframe: 21 May 2012 – 20 May 2014

Focus on SEE: “Building Resilience to Disasters in the Western Balkans and Turkey”

UNISDR implemented project 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

Focus on SEE: “Building Resilience to Disasters in the Western Balkans and Turkey”

WMO implemented project areas

5. Enhance the regional risk assessment and mapping capacities through improved capacity of beneficiaries in hazard analysis and mapping
6. Enhance beneficiaries’ capacity to forecast hazardous meteorological and hydrological phenomena and deliver timely warnings to support DRR
7. Develop capacity needed to support climate risk management and climate change adaptation into a national and regional DRR agenda
8. Design a regional Multi-Hazard Early Warning System composed of harmonized national Early Warning Systems within a regional cooperation framework

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



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)

✓ Promotion of 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)

✓ Support to the 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)

✓ Development of a web-based knowledge management system in multiple languages for DRR effective information sharing

Synergies with regional/national partners

- Urban climate/disaster resilience (2010-2015 World Disaster Reduction campaign: Making City Resilient)
- Setting national databases on disaster damages/losses
- Coordinating the work of global – regional – sub-regional –local knowledge management systems in CCA and DRM/DRR (*Preventionweb, Climat-ADAPT, etc.*)
- Governance of climate/disaster risk / informing policy/decision makers through Science-Policy Interface, Interface between CCA and DRM/DRR practitioners (*role of NP*).

Thank you

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