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Acknowledgements Foreword Introduction Preface



Chapter 1 Living with risk - focus on disaster risk reduction

- 1.1 Setting the scene understanding disaster risk reduction
- 1.2 Contexts and processes linked to disaster risk reduction: sustainable development



Chapter 2 Risk awareness and assessment

- 2.1 Understanding the nature of risk
- 2.2 Emerging trends in disaster impact, hazards and vulnerability patterns
- 2.3 Risk assessment

Additional specific reference are available at the www.unisdr.org website, including the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action and the ISDR background paper for the World Summit on Sustainable Development: Disaster Reduction and Sustainable Development: understanding the links between vulnerability and risk related to development and environment

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Chapter 3 Policy and public commitment: the foundation of disaster risk reduction

- 3.1 Institutional frameworks: Policy, legislation and organizational development for national and local decision-making
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Chapter 4 Building understanding: development of knowledge and information sharing

- Information management and communication of experience
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Chapter 5 A selection of disaster reduction applications

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Chapter 6 Related international commitments and the UN role in disaster risk reduction

6.1 Selected international development agendas and commitments

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Chapter 7 Challenges for the future



Annexes

- Terminology: Basic terms of disaster risk reduction
- Directory: International, regional, national and specialized organizations involved in disaster reduction and related issues.
- List of acronyms
- Bibliography

Feedback on 'Living with Risk, a global review of disaster reduction initiatives

The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) is a global framework established within the United Nations for the promotion of action to reduce social vulnerability and risks of natural hazards and related technological and environmental disasters.

Its main purpose is to facilitate, in an inter-agency effort, that Governments and communities in disaster-prone areas integrate the management of risk into their development policies, programmes and projects. The long-term goal is to enable communities to become resilient to disasters saving lives as well as social, economic, and environmental assets.

By working through a network of international organizations, scientific and expert institutions, civil society, private sector interests and government officials, the ISDR aims to increase public awareness about disaster reduction, to motivate commitment from public authorities, and to stimulate inter-disciplinary and inter-sectoral partnerships that can improve the scientific knowledge on natural hazards and the causes of disasters.

The Strategy was launched in January 2000, through United Nations General Assembly with the support of two international mechanisms:

- an Inter-Agency Secretariat, in Geneva, Switzerland, and`
- an Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction, that represents:
 - UN agencies, organizations and programmes: FAO, ITU, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UN/HABITAT, WFP, WHO, WMO, and World Bank;
 - Regional entities: African Union, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), Interstate Council of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Council of Europe, Ibero-American Association of Civil Defence and Civil Protection, Organization of American States/Inter American Committee for the Reduction of Natural Disasters (OAS/IACNDR), South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), and.
 - Civil Society Organizations: Drought Monitoring Centre (DMC), Kenya; Global Fire Monitoring Centre (GFMC), Freiburg, Germany; International Council for Science (ICSU); International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Company, Germany.

For additional information about ISDR, see pages 19-20 of this volume and visit the website at www.unisdr.org.