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Current gaps in knowledge and capacity

The risks we face

The tools and practices to manage risks

The capacities of supporting institutions

Evidence base for policy and investment

The science-policy linking mechanisms

Statement on Science and Technology at Global Platform Third Session



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



Statement on Science and Technology for the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

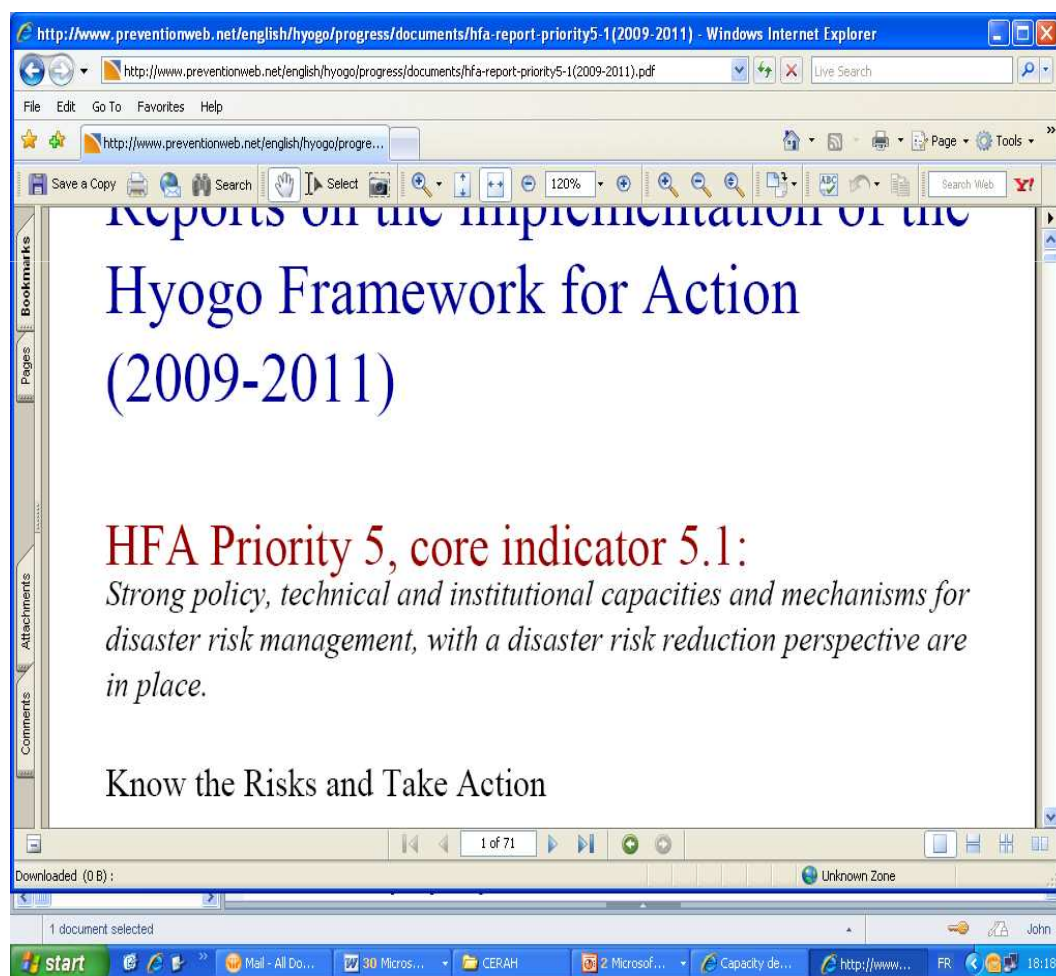
This statement presents recommendations related to science and technology in support of the outcomes of the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. It includes emerging priority issues in support of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (Annex 1) and a report on the work of the ISDR Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) (Annex 2).

The statement is prepared by the ISDR Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) based on work with scientific, technical and thematic networks, the Global Assessment Report 2011 (GAR), the Mid Term Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX), the outcomes of the International

Emerging priority areas

- Standardizing and enhancing modeling methods for understanding hazard risks and drivers of risk
- Methodologies for assessing disaster losses and understanding causes of disasters
- Enhancement of hazard predicting and early warning systems, including climate services
- Strengthening research on interdependent, cascading events

Capacity gaps in countries on disaster risk reduction



- Large variations in capacities on disaster risk reduction – no clear trends across regions and/or levels of development
- One constant is the gap between national and local capacity.

Incremental approach to decentralization

- Approach to decentralizing accompanied by:
 - clear mandates;
 - budgets and systems of subsidiarity to enable ownership; and
 - risk governance capacity at all levels.



Capacity gaps at regional and country levels

- Weaknesses in DRR strategic planning/programming
- Capacities for preparedness and recovery are still limited
- Engaging institutions in charge of planning, finance and key sectors is a challenge
- Regional levels offers a good level of entry to support the member states.

What is UN doing on capacity building on disaster risk reduction

- Many UN agencies and programmes have training on disaster risk reduction related topics at different levels (UNDP, UNEP, UNITAR, WMO, World Bank etc...)
- CADRI is a joint UNDP/OCHA/UNISDR effort with a focus on national UN capacities – starting to extend
- Growing number of regional and thematic trainings (ASEAN, IRP, ADPC etc..)

Ways forward to address capacity gaps at regional and country levels

- Stronger focus required on private sector, micro-finance institutions, regional level and the donor community
- Academic circles need to better access DRR tools and get support to develop/offer DRR training curricula – identify opportunities for multiplying engagement (individual and organizational)
- Central repository for DRR good practices and tools for knowledge and experience sharing need strengthening
- Support further south-south and peer-to-peer cooperation/exchanges

THANK YOU

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