

Engaging in the Climate Change Negotiations: Preparing for Impact

Silvia Llosa, ISDR Secretariat, Geneva

- ❑ Disaster risk reduction now recognised in UNFCCC processes
- ❑ Need to share disaster risk reduction knowledge and tools at COP-14, Poznan
- ❑ Need to organize activities and agree on joint messages

Climate change and disaster risks

1. Evidence of more extreme events already found (IPCC) – drought, heavy rainfall, heatwaves.
2. Populated deltas, SIDS, and Africa identified.
3. Impacts from (i) more extreme events and (ii) greater vulnerability to hazards - from stresses on ecosystems and water.
4. Big gaps of knowledge on specific humanitarian and economic consequences.

Climate change and disaster risks

1. Extensive toolbox of methods for reducing disaster risks is available for adaptation use.
2. Risk assessments, early warning systems, ecosystem management, river management, public education, emergency management, etc.
3. We need an IPCC assessment on tools for management of extreme events.
4. Clearly we should link adaptation and disaster reduction agendas, not reinvent the wheel; ISDR system and Harbin Alliance.

Climate change policy processes

Toward a COP-15 agreement on post 2012 in Copenhagen...

Where: UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP-14)
Poznan, Poland. 1-12 December 2008.

Who: Ad-hoc Working Group on Long-term
Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) to follow up on
Bali Road Map,

What: Parties exchange knowledge in a workshop on
risk management risk reduction strategies and
risk transfer.

Also keep eye on: Criteria for Adaptation Fund
Contribute to Nairobi Work Programme

Linking up disaster risk reduction and climate change

Disaster risk reduction needs to be explicitly recognised in all areas: agreement, adaptation funding criteria, government adaptation plans...

Adaptation action should take a programmatic, comprehensive approach. Integrated into DRR efforts and development plans

Priorities and measures to build resilience

- First priorities: (i) National adaptation plans.
(ii) National risk assessments, focused on the vulnerable.
(ii) Strengthened institutions, including to link climate change and risk reduction agendas.

Measures:

- (i) Risk-related zoning and building codes.
- (ii) Protection of environmental buffers.
- (iii) Management of floods and droughts.
- (iv) Protection of critical facilities, e.g. hospitals.
- (v) Early warning and response systems.
- (vi) Public education and awareness raising.

Ideas for COP-14 Poznan

1. Organizations' directors include DRR and Hyogo Framework in their statements to COP
2. Roundtable media event of high-level ISDR system representatives issue and promote a joint statement.
3. Coordinated side events on risk reduction on each of Hyogo Framework Priorities for Action. Convey joint messages.
4. ISDR system exhibit with practical info and guidance products on DRR
 - Prepare existing info for dissemination
 - Develop info for COP-14 on Bali risk issues

Possible messages for COP-14 Poznan

1. Climate change is increasing disaster risk
2. Many countries are already highly vulnerable
3. Disaster risk reduction policies and measures are the first line of defence in adapting to CC
4. It makes sense to deal with the disaster risk part of adaptation immediately— scale up implementation of the Hyogo Framework
5. Funds for adaptation should explicitly include disaster risk reduction and preparedness to respond to disasters
6. CC mitigation measures should not increase risk and should provide cobenefits with DRR