

**UN Disaster Reduction Conference, 3 October 2005**  
**Sálvano Briceño, Director, Secretariat, UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**

  
**Disaster Prevention Today, Lives Saved Tomorrow**  
**Key Outcomes from Kobe**  
**The Great Hall, King's College, London, The Strand**  
**3 October 2005**  
**The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015:**  
**Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters**

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**Global Trends (risk components)**

Natural and human-induced hazards  
Climate change and variables

Socio-economic: poverty, unplanned urban growth, lack of awareness and institutional capacities...

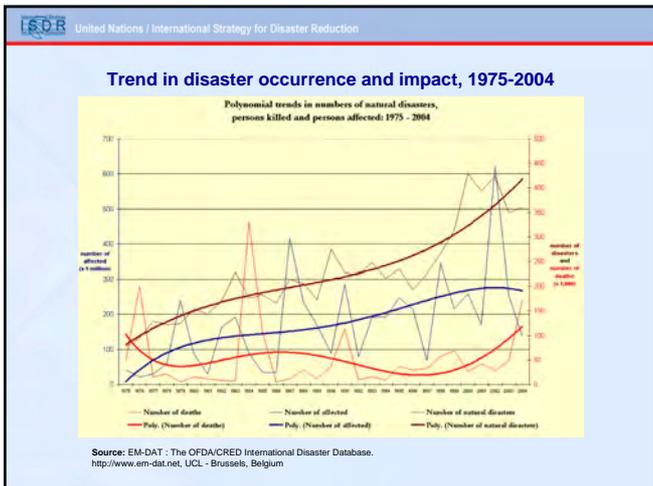
Physical: insufficient land use planning, housing, infrastructures located in hazard prone areas...

Environmental degradation  
oil spills; coastal, watershed, forest, wetland degradation...



**HAZARDS +  
EXTREME EVENTS**

**VULNERABILITY**



**Disaster reduction – an agenda in progress**

**1990s: International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR, 1990-1999)** – promotion of disaster reduction, technical and scientific development

**1994: First World Conference on Disaster Reduction: Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action** – mid-term review of IDNDR, first blueprint for disaster reduction policy guidance, social and civil society orientation

**2000: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)** - increased government commitment, linkage to sustainable development, enlarged networking and partnerships. Institutional mechanisms: IATF/DR, ISDR secretariat, UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction

**2005: Second World Conference on Disaster Reduction (Kobe, Hyogo): Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters:**

- ✓ 3 Strategic goals
- ✓ 5 Priorities for action
- ✓ Implementation and follow-up

  
**International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**

Launched in 2000 by UN General Assembly Resolution A/54/219 as successor of the International Decade on Natural Disaster Reduction –IDNDR, 1990-1999:

The ISDR aims at building disaster resilient communities by promoting increased awareness of the importance of disaster reduction as an integral component of sustainable development, with the goal of reducing human, social, economic and environmental losses due to natural hazards and related technological and environmental disasters.



**Current ISDR System**

- 1. Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction (IATF/DR)**  
 (2 meetings/year: May and Nov. in Geneva)
- 2. Inter-Agency Secretariat of the ISDR**
  - Headquarters in Geneva
  - Regional offices (LAC, Africa, Asia, planned in Europe)
  - Thematic Platforms (CIFEN, Guayaquil; Global Wildland Fire Network, Freiburg; Platform for the Promotion of Early Warning, Bonn; International Recovery Platform, Kobe.)
  - Regional Partners and Centres (ADPC, ADRC, SOPAC, CEPREDENAC, CDERA, CAPRADE, AU/NEPAD, COE, IC/CIS)
  - National Committees/Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

*Note: the ISDR system is being discussed among partners and at the UN GA with a view to enhance and strengthen it to make it an effective instrument to facilitate the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action*

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ISDR United Nations / International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

**ISDR Main functions:**

- (a) **Policy and Coordination:** CSD, LDCs, SIDS, IPCC, UNFCCC, UNCCD, IEWP, UN/Water, UN/Oceans...
- (b) **Advocacy:** annual awareness campaign, educational booklets, other publications...
- (c) **Information Management and Networks:** websites, clearinghouse, library, on-line dialogues, Living with Risk...
- (d) **Partnerships for Applications:** with UN agencies, IGOs, NGOs, Governments, academic institutions, private sector, media...



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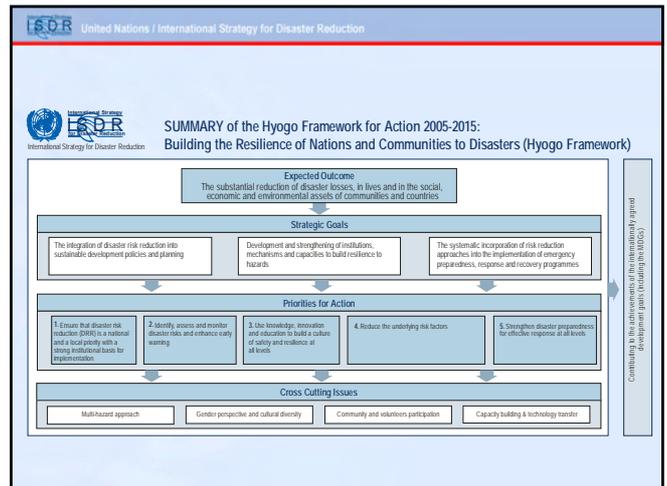
**Challenges and shortcomings**

- ✓ Governments and the public have been slow to take action on disaster risk reduction
- ✓ Resources and efforts go mainly into relief and recovery, but very little is spent on addressing the underlying causes of disasters.
- ✓ Humanitarian action is usually disconnected from development investments.
- ✓ Government priorities still reflect this situation

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**The World Conference on Disaster Reduction and Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 – 2015**

- ✓ Major review of disasters and disaster reduction efforts
- ✓ Hyogo Framework for Action – 2005-2015 - a roadmap negotiated by Governments
- ✓ Five priority areas, each with specific actions
- ✓ A demand for systematic, concrete action
- ✓ Stronger cooperation and international support encouraged.



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**Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015:**  
**Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters**

1. **Preamble**
2. **Objectives, expected outcome and strategic goals**
  - The integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning.
  - The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards.
  - The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes.
3. **Priorities for action 2005-2015**

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**Priorities for action 2005-2015:**

1. **Governance:** ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with strong institutional basis for implementation
2. **Risk identification:** identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning
3. **Knowledge:** use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels
4. **Reducing the underlying risk factors**
5. **Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response**

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### Strategic Directions for the ISDR System to Assist the Implementation of Hyogo Framework

- 1. Institutional commitments:** national workshops; guiding principles for national platforms; matrix of commitments and initiatives; regional platforms, partnerships
- 2. Planning and Programming:** CCA/UNDAF; PRSPs; mainstreaming in MDGs; integration into sustainable development and sectors: health, environment, agriculture, etc.
- 3. Awareness and Advocacy:** awareness raising and educational materials
- 4. Reporting on Progress and Monitoring:** benchmarks and indicators; reports to UNGA
- 5. Roles and Modalities of the ISDR System:** A widened and reformed IATF/DR; governance mechanism; strengthened Trust Fund; national, regional and thematic platforms/networks

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### Living with Risk :

**A global review of disaster reduction initiatives available on the ISDR website ([www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org))**

Living with Risk is the UN publication which displays in two volumes the experiences drawn from around the world, on reducing risk to disasters

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### Conclusion: A safer future depends on working together to communicate effectively and motivate change for reducing risk and vulnerability

**Hyogo provides the Framework**

- o Need to engage those aware on a common course
- o Then jointly advocate with those not fully aware as yet

**Communicating; exchanging knowledge and expertise; motivating and facilitating change**

- o Working closely with media to inform and motivate the public
- o Engaging with community leaders to do more of what many already know: learning from the experience of others
- o Advocating with policy and decision-makers: in civil protection, environment, education, health...
- o Partnering with private sector and academic institutions
- o Bridging policy-professional-community-information roles, developing relationships and strengthening partnerships

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*" More effective prevention strategies would save not only tens of billions of dollars, but save tens of thousands of lives. Funds currently spent on intervention and relief could be devoted to enhancing equitable and sustainable development instead, which would further reduce the risk for war and disaster. Building a culture of prevention is not easy. While the costs of prevention have to be paid in the present, its benefits lie in a distant future. Moreover, the benefits are not tangible; they are the disasters that did NOT happen. "*

**Kofi Annan, "Facing the Humanitarian Challenge: Towards a Culture of Prevention", UNGA, A/54/1**