



Acronym: ISDR

Full Name: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Website: <http://www.unisdr.org/index.php>

Established: 2000

Location: Geneva, Switzerland

Areas of expertise: Public awareness, interdisciplinary and intersectoral partnerships, scientific knowledge

Main Partners and Collaborations: PNUD/BCPR, World Bank, OCHA, ILO/ITC etc

Short Description:

The UN/ISDR is the focal point in the UN System to promote links and synergies between, and the coordination of, disaster reduction activities in the socio-economic, humanitarian and development fields, as well as to support policy integration. It serves as an international information clearinghouse on disaster reduction, developing awareness campaigns and producing articles, journals, and other publications and promotional materials related to disaster reduction. The UN/ISDR headquarters is based at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. It conducts outreach programmes through its regional units in Costa Rica and Kenya. 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.

Main activities:

In order to achieve these goals, the ISDR promotes four objectives as tools towards reaching disaster reduction for all:

- Increase public awareness to understand risk, vulnerability and disaster reduction globally,
- Obtain commitment from public authorities to implement disaster reduction policies and actions,
- Stimulate interdisciplinary and intersectoral partnerships, including the expansion of risk reduction networks,
- Improve scientific knowledge about disaster reduction.

The ISDR combines the strengths of many key players through the Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction (IATF/DR) and the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the ISDR (UN/ISDR).

The IATF/DR is the principal body for the development of disaster reduction policy. It is headed by the UN Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and consists of 25 UN, international, regional and civil society organizations. It meets twice a year in Geneva, Switzerland. Working Groups reporting to the IATF/DR bring together specialists and organisations to discuss issues of common and global relevance to disaster reduction such as climate variability, early warning, vulnerability and risk analysis, wildland fires and drought.

Contact:

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