



Earthquakes and  
Megacities Initiative

## Regional Task Force on Urban Risk

### *Brainstorming Meeting*

*23-24 January 2008, Kobe, Japan*

## Global Forum for Urban Risk Reduction

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Empowering local governments and local communities in implementing disaster risk reduction



## Background

1. Original idea developed by UNDP, OECD, ProVention Consortium and EMI
2. Extensive initial consultations started in 2005 and included World Bank, Secretariat of the ISDR, UN-HABITAT; OCHA, IFRC and other UN organizations
3. Extension of consultations to Local Government Organizations (UCLG, METROPOLIS, ICLEI, and CITYNET)
4. Input from cities: Manila, Quito, Tehran, Mumbai, others
5. Consultations with selected NGO's, scientific organizations and other organizations
6. Consultations with Government of Japan, Switzerland, and Sweden

- ❑ 2005-2006 Discussion between OECD-UNPD and EMI
- ❑ Sept 2006: Consultative meeting took place in Geneva between key UN institutions, ProVention Consortium and EMI
  - Undertake an organizational meeting to group representatives from key organizations and institutions engaged in urban risk
- ❑ First Organizational Meeting took place in Kobe, Japan on 12-13 April 2007
- ❑ Side event at the First Meeting of the Global Platform for Disaster Reduction

- ❑ Organizers: UNDP, UN-Habitat; Secretariat of ISDR; EMI
- ❑ Hosts: Government of Japan; Kobe University
- ❑ Other Participants
  - Four city organizations: UCLG; METROPOLIS; ICLEI; CITYNET
  - Several cities: Kobe, Manila, Makati, Quito, Hyogo Prefecture; Tehran, Mumbai
  - JICA; ADRC
  - ProVention Consortium, IFRC, UNCRD, IRP;



## KOBE MEETING: Outcome

- ❑ Consensus on the creation of the *Global Forum for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction*
- ❑ **Proposed** as a Thematic Cluster of the Global Platform
- ❑ Leading role of cities and City Organizations recognized



## Focus of the Global Forum

- ❑ Main focus should be on solving city-level DRR problems and on supporting cities in implementing DRR
- ❑ Other roles:
  - Awareness and advocacy
  - Knowledge depository and knowledge dissemination/sharing
  - Coordination and harmonization of actions



## **Suggested Concrete Immediate Actions (12-18 Months)**

- ☐ **Training of urban professionals and managers**
- ☐ **City-to-City technical exchanges**
- ☐ **Opportunistic awareness and advocacy activities (e.g., UCLG Congress; WUF)**



## **Kobe Meeting Follow-up**

- ☐ **Put in place of an informal “Consultative Group”**
  - **Local Government Organizations: UCLG; METROPOLIS; ICLEI, CITYNET**
  - **Cities: Makati City**
  - **City Partners: EMI**
  - **UN-HABITAT; UNDP; Secretariat of ISDR**
  - **ProVention Consortium**
  - **Academia: Kobe University**
- ☐ **Organize the Side Event at the Global Platform**



## Side Event at the Global Platform

*June 2007*

### **Reinforce the premise**

1. A strong impetus for urban disaster risk reduction is needed  
(*piece-meal approach does not work*)
2. It should be a collaborative effort from all the stakeholders -  
*no organization can do it alone*
3. Any effort must involve cities and be framed in the reality of  
cities



## Proposed Outcome of the Side Event

Put in place a  
Global Forum for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction

A “partnership” for a common interest in urban DRR

Include the Global Forum as a thematic cluster in the Global  
Platform

- ☐ **Governing Structure and representation?**
- ☐ **Funding?**
- ☐ **Priorities?**

- ☐ **Summary report from the Side Event**
- ☐ **Report from the Kobe Organizational meeting**
- ☐ **Concept paper (long version)**
- ☐ **Concept paper (short version)**
- ☐ **UCLG Declaration**

- ☐ We have some duplicating efforts
- ☐ Task Force can bring back some focus and consensus

*Thank you*