



The 3rd Meeting of the Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction (RTF-URR)

Kobe, 15 May 2008

Briefing on Recent Developments

Etsuko Tsunozaki, ADRC



Two Meetings Held



1st Brainstorming Meeting (Kobe)

23 – 24 January 2008

- Participants: ADPC, ADRC, DRI, EMI, IRP Secretariat, JICA, Kobe University, Kyoto University, UNCRD, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UN/ISDR, UNU (Tokyo) and WHO
- Informed of their activities on urban risk reduction
- Agreed to establish the Asia Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction
- Agreed on goals, objectives and main categories of activities

2nd Follow-up Meeting (BKK)

14 February 2008

- Participants: ADPC, ADRC, EMI, Kyoto University, NSET-Nepal, UNCRD, UNEP, UN/ISDR and China
- Elected the Chair and Vice-Chair
- Discussed the next steps; identified lead agencies for each area of work

Output - 1 : LOGO



- Three points to be emphasized:
Urban
Asia and
Resilience (People)
- Needs to be simple

Output - 2 : FLYER



ISDR Asia Regional Task Force Urban Risk Reduction

Key messages
"With an increasingly complex and urbanizing world, sustainable urban development and management presents considerable challenges and potentials for reducing urban vulnerabilities and risks."

ECONOMIC CHANGE: Economic activities are becoming more concentrated in urban areas, making them more vulnerable to natural hazards and human-induced risks.

RESILIENCE: Rapid urbanization has increased the vulnerability of urban populations to natural hazards and human-induced risks.

CLIMATE CHANGE: Climate change is exacerbating urban vulnerabilities through sea level rise, extreme weather events, and increased drought risk.

POPULATION: Rapid population growth, particularly in urban areas, is increasing the number of people exposed to risks.

URBAN FORM AND LAND USE: Urban form and land use patterns are influencing urban vulnerabilities and risks.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRESSURE: Environmental pressures are increasing urban vulnerabilities and risks.

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BACKGROUND: FOCUS ON URBANIZATION IN ASIA

Urbanization is a complex process of development, economic growth, population increase, and other associated elements. It is accelerated by the rapid globalization, expansion of local economies, and continuous migration from the rural areas. The combined effect is causing increasing vulnerability, which is reflected in urban disaster risk reduction's recent push. Other possible increases in projected urban population in Asia include 1.6 billion by 2025. By then, 1 in 4 persons in Asia is likely to live in a city of more than 1 million people.

The pace of urbanization in the developing world is led by Asia, followed by Africa, Latin America, Europe, and North America. In Asia, high population density in Asian cities is creating additional vulnerability, an effect that is internalized in the urban form and land use patterns. In Asia, high population density in Asian cities is creating additional vulnerability, an effect that is internalized in the urban form and land use patterns.

THE TASK FORCE

In order to address the growing vulnerability of Asian cities to disasters, the Task Force was established by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in January 2008. The Task Force is coordinated by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the task force is to enhance disaster resilience in urban areas and reduce the collective vulnerabilities of urban populations. It will work in the following areas:

- To provide a platform for collective information and knowledge
- To develop and coordinate among member organizations
- To promote and coordinate among member organizations

ACTIVITIES

The Task Force activities are divided into three main categories:

- Policy and Advocacy:**
 - Developing public advisory paper and policy analysis
 - Developing public advisory paper and participating in the key regional events
- Knowledge Management:**
 - Developing and maintaining knowledge base of experts, resources, tools and activities
 - Creating networks and codes of practices
- Promoting Synergies and Coordination:**
 - Facilitating joint implementation of its member organizations
 - Joint training and capacity building programs

UNDRR, ADB, ILO, WHO, UN Women, UN Women Asia, UN Women Africa, UN Women Europe, UN Women Latin America and the Caribbean, UN Women Middle East and North Africa

Output - 3 : CD-ROM



Contains:

- Concept Papers, Agenda, Presentations, Meeting Minutes, List of Participants of the 1st and the 2nd Meetings
- Flyer



Also posted on the RTF-URR provisional website
<http://www.adrc.or.jp/events/RTFmeeting20080130/top.html>

Output - 4 : ToR



Describes the structure, roles and activities of the Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction (RTF-URR) that would encourage synergy and promote effective engagement and partnerships, with a view to increasing effectiveness of the integration of risk reduction in urban management.





Output - 4 : ToR



BACKGROUND

- * *Focus on Urbanization*
- * *Focus on Asia*
- * *Focus on Resilience*
- * *Focus on Urban Futures*

RATIONALE

A Thematic Platform of the ISDR System

THE TASK FORCE

- * *Goal and Objectives*
- * *Priority Activities and Outputs*
- * *Operating Modality of the Task Force*



Output - 4 : ToR



Main categories of activities:

1. Policy and Advocacy

- Identifying priorities for urban DRR and gap analysis
- Developing policy advocacy paper and participation in the key regional events.

Outputs: Policy Papers and participation in advocacy forums

2. Knowledge management

- Developing and maintaining knowledge base of experts, resources, tools and activities
- Setting standards and codes of practices.

Outputs: knowledge repository, training and capacity building programs

3. Promoting Synergies and Cooperation

- Promoting joint implementation of its members organizations
- Promoting training and capacity building programs.

Outputs: Country specific actions and dissemination



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Output - 5 : Standard PPT



Asia Regional Task Force On Urban Risk Reduction

Founding members:

ADPC, ADRC, DRI, EMI, IRP secretariat, JICA, Kobe University, Kyoto University, UNCRD, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UN/ISDR, UNU and WHO



ISDR

Draft Agenda of the 3rd Meeting



Kobe, 15 May 2008

13:00 – 13:10	Briefing on recent development after the 2nd Meeting in Bangkok in February (e.g. Flyer, CD Rom, Logo, ToR, a standard PPT)	Vice Chair, Etsuko Tsunozaki, ADRC
13:10 – 14:10	Discussion on next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft workplan • Production of a local words into action (a proposed content) • Plan for development of matrix with inputs from each agencies • Regional reporting on URR for the ISDR Global Assessment Report 	Chair, Rajib Shaw, Koto University
14:10 – 14:30	Wrap up	Rajib Shaw, Koto University



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Thank you very much!