On behalf of the UNDRR Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, we would like to wish you all the best for the Happy New Year and take this opportunity to share some highlights from the past year:

**Message of Mami Mizutori on the launch of the Global Humanitarian Overview**

In 2022, 274 million people will need humanitarian assistance around the world. Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR, calls on countries to increase investment in disaster preparedness and prevention to save lives.

**Israel partners with the MCR2030 initiative to bolster resilience efforts**

The State of Israel has joined the MCR2030 initiative as a supporting entity. It welcomes cities, local governments, and all parties who wish to support cities along the resilience roadmap. This is the beginning of a new collaboration, and UNDRR welcomes the new MCR partner on the road towards better resilience.

**Nur-Sultan city assesses its disaster resilience with a focus on health systems**

On 30 November 2021, the city of Nur-Sultan, in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the European Union (EU) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in Kazakhstan, conducted an assessment of the resilience of the public health sector of the city to disasters.

**The Earthbeat Challenge**

The new youth film Challenge ‘From Risk To Resilience’, launched by UNDRR together with Earthbeat, is available! Share your stories of initiatives which reduce risk from disasters, boost resilience and demonstrate cooperation and coordination across communities, regions and national boundaries.

**MCR2030 updates**

Making Cities Resilient 2030 enters its second year of implementation with 470 cities signing up globally, including 74 in Europe and Central Asia. In our region, the year has featured a Dashboard Orientation, providing cities and partners training on how to use the online platform of MCR2030, search for services, and interact with one another. The recording of resources presented can be found through this link. This month, MCR2030 welcomes Kazan as the first city in the Russian Federation to join MCR2030. In parallel, a strong engagement in MCR2030 has led to the creation of new partnerships: Green Deal, Urbea, Travaux, Urban, and Galicia. The MCR2030 offer continues to grow with an increased number of diverse MCR2030 partners. The Eastern Alliance for Safe & Sustainable Transport, University of Sheffield, Centre and Asia Hubbing Community Interest Company are some of the new partners committed to supporting cities in building resilience.

UNDRR is glad to announce that applications for events taking place in connection with the seventh session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP2022) are now open. Innovation Platform until 23 January 2022, Ignite Stage until 31 January 2022 and side events until 31 January 2022. To learn more and apply, visit the Global Platform website.