Issue 10
NEWSLETTER – Half-Year 2022 [July-December]

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From Risk to Resilience: Building a Local Environment for Success: Sharm El Sheikh Declaration as a Resilience Hub within MCR2030

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 12 November 2022 | The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Regional Office for Arab States (UNDRR ROAS), Sharm El-Sheikh city, and the Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC) in Egypt, celebrated the declaration of Sharm El-Sheikh as a Resilience Hub within Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030) Programme, in a side event “From Risk to Resilience: Building a Local Environment for Success” organized at the COP27, underway in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

The event focused on the resilience and adaptation to climate change at the local level of Sharm El-Sheikh, as a resilience hub within MCR2030, and its leadership role in the field of disaster risk reduction. It highlighted success stories and policy recommendations to inspire other local governments. Read more

Urban Resilience and Climate Change Roadmap – Making Cities Resilient 2030 Programme

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 12 November 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS and the UN Resident Coordinator Office in the United Arab Emirates hosted a side event at COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh under the title “Urban Resilience and Climate Change Roadmap” addressing climate parity between adaptation and mitigation, finance, and collaboration.

The event highlighted examples where there are...
UNDRR ROAS facilitated a city-to-city exchange between Sharm El-Sheikh and Incheon to enhance urban disaster resilience

Incheon, Republic of Korea, August 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS facilitated a city-to-city exchange between Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt and Incheon, the Republic of Korea aiming to enhance urban disaster resilience, as COP27 host Sharm El-Sheikh has set its sights on being recognized as a global leader in urban disaster resilience.

A senior delegation of the national government, governorate, and city officials traveled to Incheon, Republic of Korea, to learn from an established leader in urban disaster resilience and received a real-time briefing on how the Korean city had coped with this ongoing extreme weather event.

The Egyptian city is committed to becoming a Making Cities Resilient 2030 Resilience Hub by the time tens of thousands of delegates from around the world convene at the southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula for the annual UN Climate Change Conference in November. Read more

Launching of CREWS Greater Horn of Africa: Strengthening early warning and early action systems for meteorological, hydrological, and climate extremes

Mombasa, Kenya, 25 August 2022 | The Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative launched the "Greater Horn of Africa: Strengthening early warning and early action systems for meteorological, hydrological, and climate extremes" project, which will be implemented regionally and in Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan, by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and the World Bank. The project aims to enhance the capacities of regional and national entities to produce and use climate, weather, and hydrological services, including early warning systems.

Read more about how UNDRR ROAS has already initiated projects to enhance the effort of disaster risk reduction in Somalia and Sudan.
Real State Resilience Tool Introduction

Online, 28 November 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS and the International Real Estate Federation (FIABCI) introduced the Real Estate Resilience Tool, which provides guidance to owners, investors, and developers to facilitate the shift from disaster risk management to disaster risk reduction. The tool will assist with strategic-decision making that drives greater resilience in business operations and assets. Furthermore, it is considered an advocacy tool to achieve change in the real estate sector and its industry practices at various stages.

The Real Estate Resilience Tool was introduced in a webinar attended by 50 participants from Belgium, USA, Philippines, UK, Jordan, Egypt, UAE, Netherlands, Nepal, Italy, Switzerland, and Sweden and led by UNDRR, FIABCI, ARISE-UAE members, the committee members, ARUP, and several stakeholders. The tool comes to provide information and a strategic-level evaluation to help business leaders in the sector to value, assess, and plan for the asset and operational resilience. Read more

Eighth Arab Partnership Meeting for Disaster Risk Reduction

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 6-7 December 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS convened the eighth Arab Partnership meeting for Disaster Risk, in cooperation with the Government of Morocco, creating a forum for technical and operational deliberations on the progress, challenges, and gaps in the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Arab region. The 8th meeting brought together the National Sendai Focal Points from 17 Arab countries, key members of Arab stakeholder groups on disaster risk reduction representing all the stakeholders, and representatives from United Nations Regional Offices, as well as representatives of the League of Arab States and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Regional Office for Arab States.
The meeting was timely as it was held one year before the culmination of the Mid-Term Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which marks the midpoint in the implementation of the Sendai Framework, the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Read more


Kuwait, 4 July 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS and the Kuwait Fire Force organized a national consultation workshop on the midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework 2015-2030 for the Arab Region in Kuwait.

The consultation brought more than 90 participants from 40 governmental and non-governmental organizations, DRR stakeholders, UN agencies, and international organizations in Kuwait to collect information on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and to put forward recommended measures to accelerate progress towards achieving its objectives by 2030. Read more

Building Resilience to Climate Disasters and the Road to COP27 Policy Roundtable Discussion

Online, 28 July 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS participated in the eighth policy roundtable discussion organized by the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Government of Japan, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), under the title “Building Resilience to Climate Disasters and the Road to COP27.”

The roundtable focused on disaster risk reduction with a special focus on climate-induced disasters and COP27, as climate change is the world's largest challenge that threatens to exacerbate disaster risks with implications on peace and security. Read more


The consultation focused on the retrospective review of what has been accomplished from 2015 to 2022 and the prospective review of 2023-2030 and sought to gain new perspectives and insights. Read more


Ramallah, Palestine, 23-24 August 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS, in collaboration with the National Center for Disaster Risk Management, organized a national consultation workshop on the midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework 2015-2030 for the Arab Region in Ramallah, Palestine.

The consultation brought more than 54 participants from the government, governmental and non-governmental organizations, DRR stakeholders, UN agencies, and international organizations in Palestine to collect information on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and to put forward recommended measures to accelerate progress towards achieving its objectives by 2030. Read more

Expert Forum on Producers and Users of Data Related Statistics

Beirut, Lebanon, 6-8 September 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS co-organized with UNESCWA the second expert forum on disaster-related statistics with the United Nations Statistics Division, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, through the the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics, in cooperation with the League of Arab States and other regional and sub-regional partners.
This forum emphasized the significance of establishing mechanisms to enable national and international collaboration and coordination of disaster-related statistics work across disciplines and organizations. It aimed to advance a common framework for disaster-related statistics by forming a network of experts to maintain collaboration, coordination and fundraising for improving statistics on hazardous events and disasters.

**Risk Analysis Workshop on Humanitarian Needs**

Khartoum, Sudan, 13 September 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS in collaboration with the GRAF unit in Geneva and the UNOCHA Country Office in Sudan organized a Risk analysis Workshop on Humanitarian Needs in Sudan to develop a shared understanding of the risk landscape in Sudan, agree on priority risks for humanitarian planning, and develop a most likely scenario for humanitarian planning.

**Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Media Workshop**

Cairo, Egypt, 12-13 October 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS, in cooperation with the Pacific Broadcasting Union and the Arab States Broadcasting Union, launched the Arab Media Network for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation during the two-day Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Media Workshop, which came to advance the media capacity in the Arab Region in understanding, reporting, and supporting the DRR's fundamental concepts and interlinkage with climate change, in alignment with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and National Strategies for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The workshop saw the participation of representatives of local and regional media outlets and UN agencies. 40 journalists from different Arab countries joined the workshop to form the first member of this Media Network. Read more

**South-South Cooperation Symposium on Climate Change, Migration, and Health**

Marrakesh, Morocco, 12-13 October 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS participated in the South-South Cooperation Symposium on Climate Change, Migration, and Health in Morocco organized by the International Organization for Migration, in coordination with the Directorate of Moroccans Residing Abroad, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, and the Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development.
The symposium was attended by senior government representatives, partners, member states' ambassadors, civil society, academics, donors, and UN officials. UNDRR ROAS participation came to address adaptation and resilience strategies and present the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. Read more

**International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 Commemoration in Sudan**

Khartoum, Sudan, 13 October 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS participated in the commemoration of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction in Sudan organized by the National Council for Civil Defense and the Regional Science and Technology Advisory Centre, in collaboration with the Ministry of Federal Governance, the Arab Science and Technology Advisory Group, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

The commemoration was organized at the headquarters of the Ministry of Federal Governance under the title of “Early Warning and Early Action for All” and was attended by current and former ministers, representatives of United Nations agencies, civil society organizations, the local community, university professors, and the components of the National Council for Civil Defense Council from the federal ministries. Read more

**First Consultative Workshop on the National Disaster Risk Reduction Platform and National DRR Strategy in Comoros**

Moroni, Comoros, 11-12 October 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS organized the first consultative workshop on the National Disaster Risk Reduction Platform and National DRR Strategy in Comoros, in collaboration with the General Directorate for Civil Security and the UN Country Team in Comoros. This workshop is part of a series of planned consultations to review the status and functioning of the National DRR Platform and to develop a National DRR Strategy. A work plan to validate the proposed National DRR Platform and to develop the National DRR strategy was achieved.

The workshop saw the participation of the Minister of Interior, representatives from the Islands' governorates, and the United Nations Resident Coordinator. Read more
Early Warning for Hydrometeorological Early Action (EWEA) for Disaster Risk Reduction: The Engagement of Young Professionals

Cairo, Egypt, 17-19 October 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS participated in the thinkshop “Early Warning for Hydrometeorological Early Action (EWEA) for Disaster Risk Reduction: The Engagement of Young Professionals” which examines the use of early warning and early action in coping with a warming climate. The thinkshop was organized by the Egyptian Meteorological Authority, Ministry of Civil Aviation, and brought together national and international participants from NGOs, humanitarian organizations, government agencies, university researchers, and consultants.

EFDRR Roadmap Action-oriented Dialogue Inclusive and Collaborative Systems for Heat and Wildfire Risks Governance

Greece, 21 October 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS and UNDRR Europe and Central Asia supported the Government of Greece in organizing a high-level dialogue, under the title “EFDRR Roadmap Action-oriented Dialogue: Inclusive and Collaborative Systems for Heat and Wildfire Risks Governance,” which aimed to address the issue of climate emergency. The dialogue saw the participation of actors from Eastern Mediterranean countries at the highest political and technical level and promoted partnerships and the development of specific actions at a sub-regional, national, and/or local level. Read more

Climate Adaptation Webinar

Online, 25 October 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS collaborated with the United Nations Resident Coordinator Office in UAE and the UN Environment Programme’s West Asia Office in organizing the Climate Adaptation webinar, along with the Food and Agriculture Organization in UAE. The webinar provided an overview of the topic of climate change adaptation, including the progress on the Global Goal of adaptation and other global efforts.

High Level Conference on Women for the Mediterranean

Madrid, Spain, 26-27 October 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS participated organized by the Union for the Mediterranean. The Conference provided an opportunity for a further exchange of experiences, good practices, and lessons learned on women empowerment and women’s rights in a regional-crisis (health, water, food and energy security) context. These discussions also contributed to shape the Roadmap for the implementation of the
Ministerial Declaration and the regional agenda for the years to come, particularly towards an effective and inclusive gender equality policy, based on a gender transformative approach and the mobilization of public and private actors in the region. UNDRR ROAS participated in the panel ‘Gender Equality and Climate Change: women as agents for change and stakeholders instead of vulnerable groups.’

**Training Program on Disaster Risk Reduction and Urban Resilience for Arab Cities**

Dibba Al-Fujairah, UAE, 1-2 November 2022 | The United Cities and Local Governments Middle East and West Asia (UCLG MEWA) organized a 2-day training on Disaster Risk Reduction and urban resilience for Arab Cities, in collaboration with the UNDRR ROAS, UCLG Learning, and Arab Towns Organization.

80 participants from 40 Arab cities joined the training, which aimed at increasing the awareness level of municipalities and local administrations on disaster risk reduction strategies; helping cities integrate disaster risk reduction and resilience building into development policies and strategies; helping local administrations to realize their shortcomings in managing and reducing disaster risks at both the theoretical and practical levels; providing city context and region-specific knowledge and tools on disaster risk reduction and urban resilience; expanding capacity building work in disaster risk reduction and resilience across the Middle East and West Asia; encouraging cities to participate in the Make Cities Resilient 2030 campaign; and following up with municipalities to help them build resilience strategies for their cities. [Read more](https://www.undrr.org/news/40-arab-cities-participate-training-program-drr-and-urban-resilience-arab-cities-strengthening)

**Risk Analysis Workshop on Humanitarian Needs**

Somalia, 16 November 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS, in collaboration with the GRAF unit in Geneva and the UNOCHA Country office in Somalia, organized a Risk Analysis Workshop on Humanitarian Needs in Somalia to develop a shared understanding of the risk landscape in Somalia, agree on priority risks for humanitarian planning, and develop a most likely scenario for humanitarian planning.
First National Forum on Risk, Emergency, and Business Continuity Management

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 21-22 November 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS participated in the First National Forum on Risk, Emergency, and Business Continuity Management which addressed Saudi Arabia's role in risk and disaster resilience, risk and disaster governance and policy, building and empowering risk and disaster capacities and capabilities, global leading practices and experiences in risk and disaster resilience, new technological trends and advancements in risk and crisis management, and supply chains resilience. The UNDRR ROAS participation came to reaffirm UNDRR's commitment to building partnerships and collaborations in Saudi Arabia and to supporting the implementation, follow-up, and review of disaster risk reduction progress at the national and local levels.

Watch here

Virtual Webinar on DRR for Arab Region

Online, 28 November 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS, jointly with WMO and OCHA, organized a webinar for the Arab countries, highlighting the current initiatives and plans to address the pre-disaster and recovery phases, presenting success stories and accomplishments integrated into the WMO plan to ensure early warnings for all, providing an updated review on the implementation of Sendai Framework and Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Arab region, and reviewing key achievements in post-disasters phase. UNDRR ROAS provided an overview of the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the Regional Strategy for DRR in the Arab region.

Technical Expert Forum on Tracking of Hazardous Events and Disaster Losses and Damages

Bonn, Germany, 29-30 November 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS participated in the Technical Expert Forum on Tracking Hazardous Events and Disaster Losses and Damages organized by UNDRR, UNDP, and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) at the UN Campus in Bonn. The forum resulted in recommendations on strengthening standards, processes, interoperability, analysis, and transparency of hazardous event and impact data and information; parameters for a recording of data for hazardous events and disasters; capacity development strategies; and international partnerships. Read more
MCR2030 Resilience Hub Forum: Scaling Up Climate-Sensitive Urban Development

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 8 December 2022 | The UNDRR ROAS, in collaboration with the Resilience Hub Sharm El-Sheikh, organized an MCR2030 Resilience Hub Forum gathering more than 25 MCR2030 Resilience Hubs and resilient cities representatives that are recognized as global leaders in various disaster and climate-related resilience actions.

Convening this forum was one of the commitments of Sharm El-Sheikh's Resilience Hub Action Plan – the host of COP27 and the latest city to be recognized as an MCR2030 Resilience Hub. The forum saw the participation of representatives from the Resilience Hubs and core partners to develop a stronger, more coordinated, and action-oriented MCR2030 Resilience Hub network and to scale up individual and collective ambition, influence, and action of the Resilience Hubs. Read more

Regional Workshop on Integrated Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Planning

Nairobi, Kenya, 14-16 December 2022 | UNDRR Bonn Office organized a Regional Workshop on Integrated Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Planning, in coordination with the UNDRR ROAS and UNDRR Regional Office for Africa, discussing good practices and challenges in planning and financing. The regional workshop aimed to enhance national capacities to develop and implement integrated plans and protect productive sectors from climate impacts, including through increased hazard frequency and intensity.

The workshop saw the participation of key government representatives from ministries responsible for disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, and planning and finance, and UN and international organizations. Read more

Regional Policy Brief on Health System Resilience and Build Back Better (BBB) from Disasters Post COVID-19 in the Arab Region

UNDRR ROAS published a Regional Policy Brief on Health System Resilience and Building Back Better from Disasters Post COVID-19 in the Arab Region, designed to highlight existing COVID-19 response measures within the Arab region and presents a set of regional, national, and subnational recommendations to guide the Arab governments on ways to enhance health system resilience and recovery post-COVID-19.

It targets recovery decision-makers and policymakers in national and local governments, ministries of health and other relevant ministries, disaster risk reduction and emergency management agencies in Arab countries, nongovernmental organizations, academia, and members of the private sector.


The launching of the Arab Media Network for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation during the two-day Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Media Workshop wise widely covered in the press. [Selection to read](https://www.undrr.org/news/united-nations-and-government-bahrain-sign-strategic-cooperation-and-sustainable-development).
ON TV interview with Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR, on the margins of COP27. 
Watch

Sky News Arabia interview with Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR, on the margins of COP27. 
Watch

Channel 1 Egypt interview with Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR, on the margins of COP27. 
Watch

MBC interview with Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR, on the margins of COP27. 
Watch
Sky News Arabia coverage of the Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Media Workshop and interview with Rania Hammad, External Relations Officer, UNDRR ROAS.
Watch

Sky News Arabia interview with Rania Hammad, External Relations Officer, UNDRR ROAS.
Watch

Social Media Campaigns

The UNDRR ROAS launched a social media campaign (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram) on the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction in English and Arabic, focusing on the 2022 theme: Early Warnings for All.

The UNDRR ROAS covered UNDRR and UNDRR ROAS events and engagement at COP27 on social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram) throughout 2 weeks.
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