Welcome to the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter!

In this issue, we are pleased to feature a story on the journey of Palestine to reduce risk and build resilience and to highlight our recent events, updates, and news.
23 Palestinian cities joined the MCR2030 on a journey to reduce risk and build resilience

We are thrilled to share with you a story about 23 Palestinian cities that have recently joined the Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030) initiative. This development will help to strengthen the resilience of these cities against hazards and reduce the risks that they face.

We are proud to see these Palestinian cities taking proactive steps toward building resilience and reducing risk, and we look forward to following their progress as they embark on this journey.

Read the full story
In preparation for the upcoming High-Level Meeting on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the UNDRR ROAS organized an online conference to brief the Sendai Framework National Focal Points, concerned parties, and stakeholders on the meeting and its objectives.

Read more about the online conference, which presented the progress made so far in implementing the Sendai Framework and highlighted the recommendations and challenges that need to be addressed.

Disasters have a significant impact on Sudan, which is classified as one of the least developed countries. Due to limited resources, the country is often unable to cope with the devastating effects of these events. UNDRR ROAS organized a 4-day workshop in Sudan, where participants deepened their knowledge of the Sendai Framework, disaster loss databases, and building resilience.

Discover the key takeaways and how UNDRR ROAS is strengthening disaster risk reduction efforts in Sudan and LDCs.

Efforts have been underway to strengthen the understanding of the Comprehensive Risk Management approach at the national level in four Arab Least Developed Countries that are at risk – namely, Comoros, Djibouti, Mauritania, and Sudan. As part of these efforts, a regional workshop focused on the integrated planning and execution of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation was held in Incheon, South Korea. The workshop facilitated in-depth training and included the participation of both international and national consultants.
Five cities from Iraq have registered in the Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030) initiative during a workshop conducted by UNDRR ROAS to introduce the MCR2030 initiative, which aims to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable by 2030.

Disasters impact the economies of the least developed countries (LDCs) around 10 times worse than the economies of the richest countries, as a share of their GDP. This highlights the need for concerted efforts to reduce disaster risk and build resilience in LDCs. UNDRR and Regional Office for Arab States were actively present at the 5th United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Qatar. Visit this page for more information.

SRSG and Head of UNDRR Mami Mizutori meetings on the margins of the conference:

- Major General Abdullah Mohammed Al-Suwaidi, Assistant Director of Public Security, Ministry of Interior, Qatar
- Khadija Mohamed Almakhzoumi, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Federal Government of Somalia
- Ali al-Sadiq, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sudan

Is it feasible to pursue sustainable reconstruction during times of crisis? The components of sustainable reconstruction, with practical examples from the Arab region, were addressed in a special session during the UNESCWA Arab Forum for Sustainable Development. ‘Sustainable reconstruction: a framework for accelerating an inclusive and sustainable recovery in the Arab region’ session was organized by UNDRR ROAS, UNDP, UN-Habitat, ILO, and UNOPS, and saw the participation of UAE ARISE Network for DRR. Watch the session or check out these highlights.

On 6 February 2023, powerful earthquakes struck the southeast of Türkiye and a large part of northwest Syria, leaving a trail of destruction and loss of life. The earthquakes resulted in one of the most devastating disasters the region has experienced in recent history.

Can we be resilient to earthquakes? Lessons from the devastating disaster in Türkiye and Syria coming up in the next issue.

The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is seeking feedback from the development community on how they utilize the tools and information resources provided for disaster risk reduction, as well as their usefulness in their work.

Your valuable input through a brief seven-question survey can assist us in customizing our future information and capacity-building resources and tools.

Take the survey!
SRSG and Head of UNDRR Mami Mizutori visited the National Command Center (NCC) in Qatar to learn about the functions of the center and its mechanism of action.

Qatar News Agency

SRSG and Head of UNDRR Mami Mizutori meeting with the Palestine Minister of Interior General Ziad Hab al-Reeh was featured in numerous local media outlets. The meeting aimed to enhancing collaboration and strategic partnerships, advancing the DRR agenda, around areas such as climate change and early warnings, and increasing UNDRR support to Palestine.

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