Cities continues to scale up resilience

The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Global Education and Training Institute (GETI) welcomed more than 70 representatives from 22 pilot cities and 13 implementing partners around the world who have been engaged in the Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient initiative supported by the European Commission to a 5-day intensive experience sharing workshop in Incheon. Participants shared their experience using the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities self-assessment and disaster risk reduction planning processes and provided useful insights on the lessons learned and how the cities are moving towards strategic implementation of the action plans. The 20 cities taking part in developing DRR action plans are: Kampala (Uganda), Dire-Dawa (Ethiopia), Kisumu (Kenya), Yaounde (Cameroon), Praia (Cabo Verde), Khartoum (Sudan), Ismailiya Governorate (Egypt), Nablus (State of Palestine), Nouakchott (Mauritania), Honiara (Solomon Islands), Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia), Kathmandu City (Nepal), Dhaka North City Corporation (Bangladesh), Cilacap Regency (Indonesia), Mawlamyine (Myanmar), Tegucigalpa (Honduras), Guayaquil (Ecuador), San Juan de Lurigancho (Peru), Guatemala City (Guatemala), and Santo Domingo Este (Dominican Republic). Participants also had an opportunity to exchange with UN-HABITAT and cities engaging in the City Resilience Profiling Tool (CRPT).

Read More: [https://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/63386](https://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/63386)
The Gambia learned from Kisumu’s experience in making cities resilient

In January 2019, the officers of the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) of the Gambia and its stakeholders actively discussed the application of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign tools and how the capacities of the city, municipalities and regions of the Gambia can be strengthened towards safer, risk-sensitive sustainable development. During the workshop, co-facilitator Celestine Collins shared how Kisumu City (Kenya) is now taking an active approach to build a resilient city. Gambia has committed to continue advocating for disaster risk reduction at the national and local levels and will continue to learn and exchange experience with Kisumu and beyond.

Thailand taking steps for a Sendai Framework-aligned national DRR strategy

96 Thai officials and disaster risk reduction focal points kicked off 2019 to engage in joint strategic planning towards revising the 2015 Disaster Risk Management Plan in greater alignment with the Sendai Framework. The hands-on workshop resulted in common understanding of the opportunities for realizing risk-informed development in coherence with SDG implementation in Thailand. The Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministries of Defence, Finance, Foreign Affairs, Tourism, Social Development, Agriculture, Transport, Environment, Digital Economy and Society, Commerce, Justice, Labour, Culture, Science and Technology, Education, Health, Industry, and the Interior, as well as the National Economic and Social Development Council, offices for National Statistics, Policy and Planning, Medical Service, Police, Security, the Thailand Development Research Institute, Thai Red Cross, and UN partners participated in the Disaster Management and Prevention Department-UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction co-organized workshop, facilitated by GETI and the Regional Office for Asia-Pacific. Planning is expected to continue throughout 2019.

Read More: https://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/63381
BMSTU: Promoting DRR education and supporting training in the Russian Federation

A small cohort of Bauman Moscow State Technical University (BMSTU) trained trainers returned to the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Global Education and Training Institute in Incheon in January to refresh their skills on the Making Cities Resilient Disaster Resilience Scorecard and be introduced to the “Understanding the Sendai Framework in coherence with SDGs at National Level: Development of Risk Reduction Strategies and Plans” training modules. BMSTU is a training partner of the All-Russia Scientific Research Institute on Problems of Civil Defense and Emergency Situations under the Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM of Russia) to support the roll-out and understanding of MCR tools in the country. In addition, BMSTU advocates for including the Sendai Framework in national curricula and has BMSTU students on including DRR in research.

Read More: [http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/63383](http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/63383)

India: L.B.S. National Academy of Administration Mussoorie holds first Sendai Framework training

The first Training of Trainers on developing national and local level DRR strategies and plans held 13 February 2019 targeted Advanced Training Institutes (ATIs) from ten Indian states with the aim of strengthening the capacities of local and State authorities to understand, strategically plan for and monitor the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction at local level for urban resilience. Following the training of trainers, ATI representatives participated in the subsequent two-day workshop for local authorities from another ten states, 14-15 February. As a result of the training and workshop, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Global Education and Training Institute and L.B.S. National Academy agreed to develop a cadre of Master Trainers for a cascading and sustainable programme using the Making Cities Resilient tools for disaster resilience planning in coherence with national strategies.

Read More: [http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/63385](http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/63385)
What is natural is a hazard, not a disaster

The majority of elementary school teachers and students in Korea have hazards such as typhoons, floods, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, coming to their minds when they think of a disaster. One of the main objectives of the School Safety Programme Towards a Culture of Disaster Prevention in Korea is to instill an understanding of how hazards differ from disasters, and to a broader extent, what makes hazards become disasters and how hazards can stay hazards. The first workshop of the year on reached 36 elementary school teachers at Seonil Elementary School in Suwon (Republic of Korea) on February 18. Many of them gave the nod to the importance of education for disaster risk reduction and their role as DRR educators. The headmaster emphasized that the school faculty all together will strive to make the school safer from all types of disasters and committed to working closely with the relevant authorities and partners, including the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction ONEA-GETI.

Thai small and medium enterprises on path towards greater resilience

Following Thailand’s commitment to develop a Sendai Framework-aligned national DRR strategy in collaboration across sectors, the Thailand Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) called upon Small and Medium Enterprises to do their part. DDPM convened a two-day workshop that helped local enterprises understand the important role they can play in reducing disaster risk and assisted them in working towards developing their own disaster risk-informed business continuity plans (BCP), co-organized by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction GETI and the Regional Office for Asia-Pacific. Deputy Director General of DDPM Chainarong Vasanasomsithi recalled the devastating impact of Thailand’s 2011 Chao Phraya River flood and highlighted that both the public and private sector must “invest today for a safer tomorrow”. Doing so can avoid the potential closure of business due to interruptions caused by hazards and disaster events.

Synergies strengthened on resilient cities

Greater Manchester (UK) and Santa Fe (Argentina) are among many cities participating in the Making Cities Resilient Campaign, as well as the 100 Resilient Cities (100RC) network, that are often cited as great examples of cities moving sustainably towards a pre-disaster culture of prevention to continuously strengthen resilience. Having been involved in supporting cities towards resilience building in the last decade, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Making Cities Resilient Campaign and 100 Resilient Cities (100RC) had a fruitful exchange of experience at the co-learning and joint planning workshop in London in February 2019. The two agencies will continue to seek synergies and strengthen
approaches to accelerate the progress of local resilience building in the future.

ARISE Philippines partnership brings DRR to small and medium enterprises

This February 21-22, the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies (ARISE) Philippines used the power of partnership to convene Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) of the Philippines to take part in the Business Case for Disaster Risk Reduction: Achieving Resilience of Small and Medium Enterprises. The workshop was organized in partnerships with UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Global Education Training Institute (GETI), SM Prime and the National Resilience Council. “Our goal is to ensure a continuing education program for all our SMEs so they can develop their climate and disaster resilient business action plans and ensure continuity of their respective businesses. This program is a critical component of our strategic Business Continuity Management System, as it will complement our BCP or Disaster Recovery Facility that aims to serve our more than 6,000 tenants in SM malls nationwide,” according to Liza Silerio, VP for SM Supermalls and Lead Person of ARISE Philippines.

Incheon Sudokwon Landfill site visit

70 participants from 35 different countries attending the Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient experience sharing workshop 4-8 March 2019 at GETI took the opportunity to visit the Sudokwon Landfill site, one of the largest landfills in the world, with the support of Incheon city. Participants showed great interest in the technologies and approaches used, including the transformation process of waste into the energy and the public usage of completed landfill. They took time to discuss differences between their countries’ technologies and the Sudokwon Landfill Site Management Corporation’s methods. SLC shared the benefits of what they’re doing: Turning waste to energy and converting the landfill site into Dream Park through longstanding landfill techniques and proven resource recycling technologies. SLC’s LFG power plant collects methane gas created in the landfill site and uses it to generate electricity. The leachate that drains from a landfill is desalinated and reused for watering plants and cooling the power plant. Combustible household wastes are turned into solid refuse fuel and sold to power plants. The biogas from food waste effluent powers buses and warms greenhouses to grow flowers and trees. 10 million trees are planted in the completed landfills which have turned into sports facilities, including an eco-friendly golf course and swimming pool, child/senior care centers, a camping site and a horseback riding facility.

Read More: https://www.slc.or.kr/eng/index_eng.do
Far East Russian professors, students and practitioners build DRR awareness for advocacy action

A diverse group of 14 Far East Russian university professors, students and junior professionals gathered at GETI 13-15 March to learn how disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation could make their region more resilient and sustainable. Ranging from small business, technology and tourism, to economics, law, health systems, and primary education, participants explored their roles in taking it forward in curricula, research and business practice. They used the Quick Risk Estimation tool and simulated DRR planning for the city of Vladivostok. Learning from Incheon Metropolitan City’s shared planning experience and the Towards a Culture of Prevention Korean School Safety Programme, participants committed to becoming advocates and actors in Russia and Far East Asia.

Read More: http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/64449

KOICA: DRR core to achieving sustainable development and peace

During his March visit to the Republic of Korea, Chief of Supporting and Monitoring Sendai Framework Implementation Branch of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Mr. Ricardo Mena met with newly appointed Vice President of KOICA, Mr Song Woong-yeob. Mr. Song recognized the importance of disaster risk reduction as a requirement for achieving sustainable development and peace, particularly within the context of climate change, and expressed interest to develop DRR guidance for KOICA. They two shared mutual appreciation for their long-time cooperation through the joint KOICA and UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Global Education and Training Institute (GETI) “Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development” training programme implemented together with the Korean National Disaster Training Institute (NDTI). The 2017-2019 programme targets officials from Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya and Mozambique. The last session of the current programme be held in Incheon and Cheonan this June.
Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat SG commits to continuously engage in DRR effort

Also during his March visit to the Republic of Korea, Chief of Supporting and Monitoring Sendai Framework Implementation Branch of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Mr. Ricardo Mena met with the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) Secretary-General Lee Jong-heon and Deputy Secretary-General Yamamoto Yasushi to discuss the increasing importance of regional collaboration to reduce disaster and climate risk and accelerate resilience. Mr. Mena recognized TCS’s recent commitment to regularize the Trilateral Working-Level Consultation Meeting on Disaster Management and advance joint activities for China, Japan and Korea. Among the slated activities is cooperation between the countries’ DRR training institutions, which includes the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction office in Incheon for Northeast Asia (ONEA) and Global Education and Training Institute (GETI). SG Lee expressed TCS’s commitment to trilateral cooperation and continuous disaster risk reduction engagement. ONEA-GETI also commits to continuous engagement, offering orientation and training on DRR, SDGs and climate risk at TCS’s request for officials, youth and journalists.


Selected Resources

- **Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**
  The GP 2019 will take place in Geneva, Switzerland from 13 to 17 May, 2019 under the theme Resilience Dividend: Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Societies. The conference will focus on how managing disaster risk and ensuring risk-informed development investments can yield multiple social, environmental and economic benefits in the long term.

- **PreventionWeb Collection: The business case for DRR**
  These resources explore the economic, social and environmental dividends of investing in disaster risk reduction
  [https://www.preventionweb.net/collections/business-case-risk](https://www.preventionweb.net/collections/business-case-risk)

- **Online learning course for Sendai Framework Monitor**
  This free online course is available to all Member States to guide officials on how to prepare and upload national and local data to the Sendai Framework Monitor, shared with relevant SDG indicators.
  [https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/63349](https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/63349)
• The Tilly Smith Story: DRR education video now available in Korean language
  On holiday in Thailand December 2014, this English school student saved over 100 lives when she recognized the signs of tsunami she had learned in school and warned those around her
  English: https://youtu.be/j95EyYln3Z8
  Korean: https://youtu.be/V0s2i7Cc7wA

Calendar for April – June 2019

Workshop on MCR Campaign Tools – Scorecard Detailed
  Busan, Rep of Korea
  01-02 April

Workshop on MCR Campaign Tools – Scorecard Detailed
  Ulsan, Rep of Korea
  04-05 April

Private Sector workshop for Martinique, Guadalupe, St Lucia, Dominica
  Martinique
  22 April

MCR future workshop with Steering Committee
  Barcelona, Spain
  24-25 April

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
  Geneva, Switzerland
  13-17 May

Launch of Strategic Approach to Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Reduction
  Geneva, Switzerland
  16 May

Consultation on the MCR Campaign post 2020
  Geneva, Switzerland
  16 May

Workshop on MCR Campaign Tools – Scorecard Detailed
  Eunpyeong, Seoul, Rep of Korea
  23-24 May

Co-learning workshop and meeting for collaboration with the World Council of IAEM
  Calgary, Canada
  02-07 June

Training with UNITAR CIFAL Center Jeju & UNPOG
  Jeju, Rep of Korea
  04-07 June

National DRR Strategy for Sri Lanka
  Colombo, Sri Lanka
  16-18 June

KOICA-UNISDR Mainstreaming DRR and CCA into Sustainable Development
  Incheon, Rep of Korea
  24-26 June

Resilient Cities Congress
  Bonn, Germany
  26-28 June

View all events at www.unisdr.org/incheon