Briefing Session for Korean Local Governments on the MCR2030 Scorecard

On 21 December 2023, an online briefing session on the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities was conducted for Korean local government disaster officials. The session involved the participation of representatives from metropolitan and other local governments across the Republic of Korea. A total of 17 urban districts across the country benefited from this briefing.

Hosted by UNDRR ONEA & GETI, this briefing session introduced the Sendai Framework and Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030), dedicating time to train local government officials for a comprehensive understanding and effective utilization of the tools offered by MCR2030. Furthermore, the session featured the introduction of the revised Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities, which was adapted to the Korean context through a 11-month consultation process.

The event was organized to strengthen the engagement of Korean local governments in MCR2030, promoting active interest and participation from local government disaster officials. This was facilitated through policy support from the Ministry of the Interior and Safety, coupled with the presentation of Scorecard application cases from the Incheon Research Institute and the Ulsan Research Institute.
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Global Accessible Online Training on Disability Inclusion Scorecard Annex

UNDRR GETI organized the first global accessible training to introduce the Scorecard Annex on the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities on 11 October 2023. The training covered important issues on disability inclusion in DRR with two case examples from Baguio City, the Philippines and Cali City, Colombia – who had successfully used the Disability Inclusion Scorecard to identify the gaps and actions for strengthening disability inclusion in local DRR planning and practices. Ensuring inclusion and accessibility, the session provided simultaneous interpretation in seven languages, with International Sign and live captioning in English. 1,157 participants from 141 countries and territories, including 84 persons with disabilities, attended this online certificate training programme. Supported by the Government of Finland and the Republic of Korea, the training was organized in response to the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework and in conjunction with the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2023 which underscore the pressing need to address the inequalities embedded in DRR practices and calls for re-examination of our current DRR strategies.

For more information: https://www.undrr.org/event/disability-inclusion-scorecard-training

The Annex for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities is available online HERE.

UNDRR and Sungkyunkwan University introduce civil servants to global and local disaster risk reduction governance

UNDRR ONEA & GETI delivered a guest lecture on Disaster Risk Reduction, Global Frameworks and Building Local Resilience for students at the Graduate School of Governance of the Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 9 October 2023. The lecture was presented as part of the course on Disaster Management for the Future, also co-presented to students at Universitas Gadjah Mada in Indonesia through support from the Korea Foundation. The students, mid-career civil servants from Algeria, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Ghana, Indonesia, Malawi, Tanzania and the Republic of Korea, were introduced to some key trends and concepts in disaster risk reduction, relevant global frameworks and examples of tools and practices to support local-level disaster risk reduction efforts.

Ulsan Metropolitan City becomes a MCR2030 Resilience Hub

At a ceremony held in Ulsan Metropolitan City in October 2023, the city located in the southeast of the Republic of Korea was recognized by UNDRR as a MCR2030 Resilience Hub and committed to support other local governments to scale up disaster risk reduction actions. Read more: https://www.undrr.org/news/industrial-powerhouse-commits-resilience

Scaling up MCR2030 in China: Resilient Cities China Symposium and Capacity Building Workshop

The first Resilient Cities China Symposium was organized by ICLEI in partnership with UNDRR ONEA & GETI in Kunming on 9 November 2023, bringing together local governments across China and international partners working on urban resilience and sustainability. The Symposium was followed by a MCR2030 training workshop for three Chinese cities. Read more: https://mcr2030.undrr.org/news/chinese-cities-commit-reduce-disaster-risk
MOIS Training for ASEAN disaster management officials held at UNDRR GETI

From 23-27 October 2023, the “2023 ASEAN-ROK Capacity Building Programme” took place for ASEAN government officials at the UNDRR GETI in Incheon. This training event, hosted by the Ministry of the Interior and Safety of the Republic of Korea, was organized with the objective to disseminate Korea’s disaster risk reduction policies and knowledge. It further aimed to contribute to the transfer of disaster risk management technology and systems while fostering exchanges between Korea and ASEAN. Nine government officials from Malaysia, Myanmar, Vietnam, Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines took part in the program.

During the five-day programme, participants engaged in training sessions covering Korea’s disaster management system, early warning system, and learned about urban resilience building from the example of Incheon City, MCR2030 Resilience Hub. The program also included visits of key disaster management structures, including flood management sites and flood control centers in Korea. The combination of training sessions and field visits provided a valuable opportunity for both Korean and ASEAN disaster officials to enhance their understanding of disaster risk reduction and early warning practices.

Incheon heatwave management policy shared at the APUF-8

Incheon Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea, as a MCR2030 Resilience Hub, shared exemplary heatwave management policy during the side event “Urban Climate Resilience: A Key to Sustainable Urbanization” at the 8th Asia-Pacific Urban Forum (APUF-8) held on 24 October 2023, at the Suwon Convention Center, co-organized by the UNDRR, ADB Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund (UCCRTF), and Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC).

The city has implemented comprehensive measures to build urban climate resilience, particularly focusing on protecting vulnerable populations during the summer heatwave period from May to September. In response to the severity of heatwave warnings, Incheon operates an integrated emergency system, coordinating various departments and utilizing 2,185 heatwave reduction facilities strategically. These facilities include shade screens and cooling fogs installed in front of the crosswalk as well as 26 water sprinkler trucks to be used to reduce road heat during extreme temperatures. The city expanded heatwave shelters, employing big data analysis to target support for the most vulnerable areas and groups. Notably, Incheon prioritizes the elderly living alone, addressing findings that such individuals face a higher risk of thermal diseases. Initiatives include the heat-safe temporary accommodation project, providing access to hotels and motels on nights when the minimum temperature reaches 25 degrees celsius or higher in July or August, and a comprehensive risk information strategy for citizens, including outdoor workers. The city distributed self-diagnosis tables, supplied IoT security phones for the safety of low-income elderly individuals, and collaborated with local media for widespread awareness. Incheon’s multifaceted approach, encapsulated by the key messages of Water, Shade, and Rest, demonstrates effective urban climate resilience and serves as a valuable case study in mitigating the impact of heatwaves on communities.
Ulaanbaatar and Sendai share experience on disaster risk reduction through a city-to-city exchange

On 6 November 2023, officials responsible for disaster risk management from Ulaanbaatar Capital City in Mongolia and the City of Sendai in Japan met online in a City-to-City Learning Virtual Workshop organized under the auspices of MCR2030. The workshop aimed to facilitate experience sharing between the two cities to support their respective efforts in disaster risk reduction and mitigation. The presentations and discussions between the two cities focused on technologies and practices in the area of earthquake and flood risk management, planning and investment, early warning systems and community engagement, and emergency command processes.

Both cities are at Stage C of the MCR2030 Resilience Roadmap, and committed to address challenges arising from increasing climate-related and other disaster risks in their region. Such city-to-city and peer-to-peer learning opportunities are an important aspect of the global MCR2030 initiative, which aims to support local governments in their disaster risk reduction and resilience efforts.

Expansion of the Korean School Safety Programme in South and Southeast Asia

In collaboration with UNDRR ONEA & GETI, the Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS) of the Republic of Korea, and Incheon Metropolitan City, the Korean School Safety Programme (KSSP) was introduced to teachers and students in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and Gift City, India, to promote and raise awareness of disaster risk reduction and resilience to disasters through prevention-oriented DRR education.

The Korean School Safety Programme (KSSP) in Yogyakarta was co-implemented by UNDRR ONEA & GETI, the Korean non-governmental organization Citizens’ Coalition for Safety (CCS) and a few key partners in Yogyakarta for five days from 6-10 November 2023. KSSP was introduced to the officials and stakeholders from the Regional Disaster Management Agency of Yogyakarta (Badan Penanggulangan Bencana Daerah - BPBD), the Office of Education of Yogyakarta, Ahmad Dahlan University, and Bayankara Elementary School. The five-day programme also included a mutual exchange of experiences between the two countries, during which officials from Yogyakarta shared information about local disaster education programmes with the delegations from UNDRR ONEA & GETI and CCS, and respective experiences and complementarities between the programmes were discussed.

The KSSP training was provided to 40 students in grade 5 and 18 elementary school teachers from Bayankara Elementary School with the localized training materials and support (i.e., translated training tools and interpretation support) and teachers were introduced to STEPs 2 and 3 of KSSP where students are encouraged to develop their own DRR plans (STEP 2) and subsequently share their experience with others (STEP 3). STEPs 2 and 3 are expected to be officially incorporated in the current KSSP modules and launched in 2024. A number of ideas and suggestions were exchanged in terms of effective integration of the KSSP in the existing disaster safety education of Yogyakarta and it was agreed that in-person, hands-on training on STEPs 2 and 3 for both teachers and students from the same school will be organized and strategies for effective adaptation will be discussed in 2024.

On December 6th, a KSSP Training of Teachers (ToT) was provided to forty teachers from Jamnabai Narsee International School (JNS) located in Gujarat International Finance Tec (GIFT) City, India. The ToT was followed by a training session for 28 students from the same school on 7 December 2023. The ToT was also attended by staff members from GIFT City, experts of the Gujarat Institute for Disaster Management (GIDM) and representatives of the South Asia Alliance of Disaster Research Institute (SAADRI). The Disaster Management Program (DMP) and Safe School Program (SSP) of Gujarat were shared with delegations from UNDRR ONEA & GETI, MOIS and Incheon Metropolitan City and further discussions on effective adaptation and adoption of KSSP in Gujarat are to be continued.
Local Practitioners from Bhutan, Mongolia, Nepal and Philippines attend the UNDRR Comprehensive Risk Management Workshop in Incheon

On 13-16 November 2023, UNDRR organized a Technical Workshop on Integrated Planning and Implementation of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation: A Comprehensive Risk Management Approach for local practitioners from Bhutan, Mongolia, Nepal and the Philippines. Held at the UNDRR GETI for Disaster Risk in Incheon, Republic of Korea, the workshop introduced local government representatives from the four countries to key concepts, approaches and tools to support integrated disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation action. Sessions focused on comprehensive risk assessment, planning and implementation, as well as funding channels, with a presentation delivered by the Green Climate Fund. Using a number of tools for national and local level gap assessment, including the Climate Resilience Addendum to the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities, the workshop helped participants to identify gaps in integrated DRR and CCA policy, planning and implementation and to formulate actions and capacity development needs to further support comprehensive risk management in their respective cities. Participants also learned about disaster risk reduction practices in the Republic of Korea through presentations by national and local government officials and site visits in Incheon City. The workshop was attended by 50 government representatives and technical experts from 16 MCR2030 municipalities, including Thimphu Thromde and Phuentsholing Municipality in Bhutan, Suryodaya Municipality in Nepal, Baguio City in the Philippines and Ulaanbaatar capital city and 11 provinces of Mongolia.

Launch of the eLearning Course on Risk-informed Governance and Innovative Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience

On 8 November 2023, the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) of the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) and UNDRR officially launched the eLearning Course on “Risk-informed Governance and Innovative Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience”.

The launch event included remarks by Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, presentations of best practices from the toolkit, case studies from the Philippines and China introduced by experts from the two countries, as well as a practical demonstration of the contents and access modalities of the new course.

The self-paced eLearning Course is based on the Toolkit from the UN DESA Curriculum on Governance for the SDGs and aims to strengthen national capacities to spearhead innovations and utilise Information and Communications (ICTs) and key frontier technologies in government in order to drive DRR and resilience. It is available to all interested policymakers, practitioners, and interested stakeholders at the UN DESA Digital Learning Centre and the UNSSC Blue Line platform; and has accessibility features for inclusive learning.

Governments in the Americas and the Caribbean Enhanced Capacities to Finance Sub-national DRR and Climate Resilience Actions

A 4-day workshop to enhance sub-national capacities focussing on accessing funds for implementation took place on 16-19 October 2023, with 20 participants from Dosquebradas, Colombia; Santa Ana, Costa Rica; Quito, Ecuador; Panama City, Panama; Montevideo, Uruguay, and Jamaica. The first two days of the training, led by UNDRR, focused on enhancing the diagnostic and planning skills for DRR and climate resilience projects using the Climate Resilience Scorecard Addendum followed by the Scorecard Action Guide – with a focus on prioritizing actions and preparing to convert them into investment projects. The last two days, led by the Climate Bond Initiatives (CBI), focused on equipping government officials with the knowledge and skills necessary to issue green bonds and identify alternative financing for the effective implementation of climate actions such as blended and pooled financing, development funds, loans, public-private partnerships, and others. The training also covered the issues of credit worthiness, credit risk, currency mitigation, and how to identify strategies to reduce risks. Participants had an opportunity to present their climate project ideas to investors and financiers, providing opportunities for further financial partnerships after the training. Hosted by the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament (Parlatino) and the Centro de Altos Estudios Parlamentarios in Panama City, Panama, the training was organized by UNDRR GETI and the Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean, in partnership with CBI and Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF).

Quezon City applied the Disability Inclusion Scorecard Annex with peer learning support from Baguio City in a UNDRR GETI-ROAP workshop

A 2-day training on Disability Inclusion in Disaster Risk Reduction took place in Quezon City, the Philippines, on 28-29 November 2023 with a great collaboration of the city officials from various departments, many representations of persons with hearing, physical, visual, mental and other types of disabilities including children with disabilities, and two key national government agencies – the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). Participants applied the Disability Inclusion Scorecard Annex to mutually identify key gaps and actions to further strengthen the inclusion of persons with disabilities in DRR planning and practices. The training was co-facilitated by Ms. Antonette Anaban, UNDRR GETI’s former trainee, who brought with her the rich experience in the Scorecard processes, especially in the application of Disability Inclusion Scorecard Annex in Baguio City. Marking the first city-to-city learning on the inclusion of person with disabilities using the Disability Inclusion Scorecard Annex in the Philippines, the training was organized by UNDRR GETI together with Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration with the Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (DRRMO) of Quezon, City of Baguio, with financial support from the Government of Finland and the Government of the Republic of Korea.
New Training on Budget Tagging for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation

On 22 November 2023, in collaboration with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and UNDRR Geneva, GETI organized a 3-hour webinar exploring a new methodology for the design and implementation of combined disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) budget tagging and tracking. Over 200 participants from around the world took part in this pilot training, which demonstrated how an integrated approach to DRR and CCA can lead to more efficient and effective use of public resources for the achievement of the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals. This first webinar is expected to be followed by additional trainings in 2024, including at the country level.

For more information: https://www.undrr.org/event/strengthening-disaster-and-climate-change-finance-budget-tagging-disaster-risk-reduction-and
Download publication HERE

Kampala set an ambition to make the city disability inclusive in disaster risk reduction

More than 100 representatives of Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), key national and local government offices, organizations of persons with disabilities, and stakeholders gathered for the first time to learn and discuss about urban resilience and disability inclusion in disaster risk reduction in a workshop held in Kampala, Uganda, on 22-24 November 2023. The workshop guided participants to discuss the current situation of persons with disabilities and disaster in Kampala based on concrete evidence and constructive discussions using the UNDRR Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities - Annex for the Inclusion of People with Disabilities. Among the many issues and challenges raised, participants of which included more than 20 persons with disabilities had a consensus on key gap areas and selected 4 concrete actions to take forward in the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year. The training was organized by UNDRR GETI together with Regional Office for Africa, in collaboration with KCCA, Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, and the Office of Prime Minister, with financial support from the Government of Finland and the Government of the Republic of Korea.

Newly developed training course to support local governments in financing adaptation

UNDRR partnered with ICLEI World Secretariat under the MCR2030 initiative to develop a training course on adaptation financing aiming to support cities moving from strategies to implementation. A pilot training of this newly developed modules took place on 28 November 2023 with 10 selected cities globally. This training course was tailor made to the needs identified by and across cities selected to join this pilot initiative aiming to unlock the common challenges in financing for disaster risk reduction and adaptation projects. The training course includes 3 modules focusing on 1) climate change overview and the perspectives related to local governments, 2) Climate financing opportunities for local governments including the landscape of various climate financial sources and criteria, existing mechanisms and tools, and 3) Insights to building strong cases for climate financing and proposal development. The feedback received from the pilot training will be incorporated for the finalization of the training course of which additional trainings will be planned for 2024.
Scorecard assessment workshop to strengthen resilience of Ulsan Metropolitan City

The 6th "Scorecard Evaluation Workshop to Strengthen Resilience" took place in Ulsan Metropolitan City, Korea, on 29-30 November 2023. Ulsan Metropolitan City was designated as a MCR2030 Resilience Hub in 2023, in recognition of its resilience efforts demonstrated through the ongoing series of Scorecard evaluation workshops. The workshop, co-hosted by Ulsan City Hall and Ulsan Research Institute, included participants from UNDRR ONEA & GETI, various public institutions, and civil society groups within Ulsan Metropolitan City. In total, 33 individuals attended, consisting of 20 participants from Ulsan City Hall, 9 from related institutions, and 4 from the Ulsan Research Institute. The primary focus of the workshop was to apply the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities to evaluate the city’s resilience.

Before starting the Scorecard evaluation, UNDRR ONEA & GETI explained the purpose of the MCR2030 initiative, introduced tools, and provided insights into the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Furthermore, participants were encouraged to continue updating the Scorecard evaluation exercise and to engage in exchanges with other cities following the completion of the evaluation process. The results of the Scorecard evaluation conducted over two days were shared with all participants and will be used to inform Ulsan Metropolitan City’s future disaster risk management policy.

For updates on upcoming UNDRR ONEA & GETI Training and Events, please visit: https://www.undrr.org/about-undrr-where-we-work/incheon#CalendarofEvents
Useful Resources:

- UNDRR Work Programme 2024-2025
  https://www.undrr.org/publication/undrr-work-programme-2024-2025

- Budget tagging for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation: Guide for design and taxonomy

- The Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities – Action Guide
  Chapter 2: How to create a prioritized action plan and prepare projects

- Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities: Annex for Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities
  https://mcr2030.undrr.org/disability-inclusion-scorecard

- GAR Special Report 2023: Mapping resilience for the Sustainable Development Goals
  https://www.undrr.org/gar/gar2023-special-report

- WIN DRR report: The impact of WIN DRR - the Women’s International Network for Disaster Risk Reduction

- Technical guidance on application of climate information for comprehensive risk management

- Global status of multi-hazard early warning systems 2023

- 2023 Global Survey on Persons with Disabilities and Disasters