







XXIII OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum
“Water governance in the OSCE area – increasing security and stability through cooperation”
Water security and disaster risk reduction



Paola Albrito, Head UNISDR Regional Office for Europe

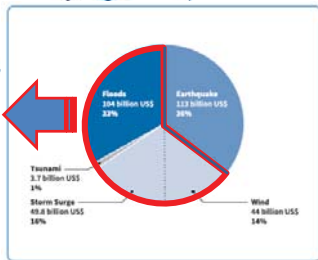



Global multi-hazard average annual loss




(Source: UNISDR with data from Global Risk Assessment.)

Most frequently extensive events due to climatological and hydro-meteorological trigger;



(Source: UNISDR with data from Global Risk Assessment.)



Examples from Balkans Flood 2014



B&H:

- 2.04 billion Eur (damages + losses)
- 15% of GDP
- mostly private sector (Source: B&H Floods, 2014, Recovery Needs Assessment-Local Government, UN, WB, EC)

SERBIA:

- Recession of 0,5% instead of growth 0,5% 1% GDP
- Reduction of exportation and increasing of importations results in 1% of GDP
- Fiscal position will deteriorate further by about 1% of GDP
- The private sector sustained higher values of destroyed assets
- Only 2% of damage and losses covered by insurance and reinsurance (source Ministry of Finance of Serbia)

Topic raising at the top of the international agenda and triggering a **Global Call on DRR**

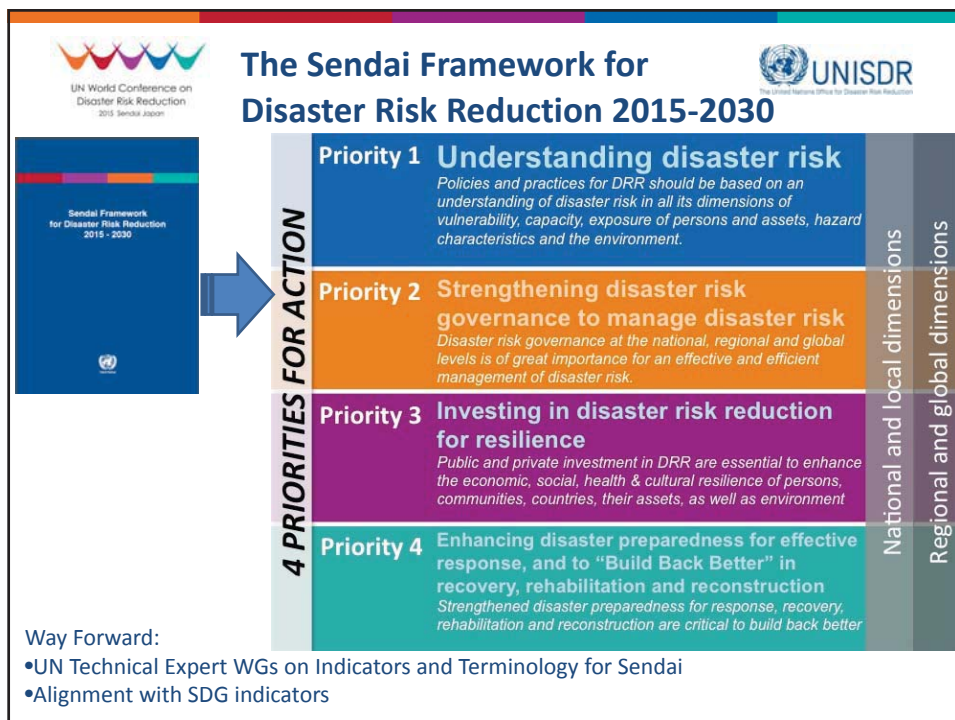
Sustainable development cannot be achieved unless disaster risk is reduced and appropriate life conditions, also in terms of security as well as financial and economic capacity, are ensured for everybody:

- The Hyogo Framework for action 2005-2015
- The new regulation of the UNION Civil Protection Mechanism
- The OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/14
- UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
- The Sustainable Development Goals
- The Climate Change Agenda

Cohesive and mutual reinforcement between a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, Sustainable Development Goals and the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC

April 2014

- The world cannot afford to perpetuate a disconnect between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and climate change. UNISDR continues to lead efforts to promote coherence and mutual reinforcement in three landmark agreements set for 2015: a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, the Sustainable Development Goals and the 23rd Session of the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- All three agreements share a common aim of making development sustainable. Strong commitment to ambitious goals and accelerated implementation of these international agreements must be a global priority.
- Given the complementarities between the post-2015 agendas, leveraging the total impact of these instruments creates shared value. Efforts must be deployed to ensure that each of them do not build on "policy risks" or, contradictory policies, that generate more risk than they reduce.



Water Governance in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 Sendai Japan

UNISDR The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

- Recognizing Water is an essential element of national/regional sustainability,
- Recognizing that natural hazards may become disasters because of, among other factors, the vulnerability of societies, and acknowledging that the sustainable use and management of ecosystems and natural resources such as soil, water and forests are essential for the prevention of disasters,
- Noting the exacerbating effect climate change may have on the frequency and magnitude of disasters, and therefore the importance of climate change mitigation and adaptation to effectively reducing disaster risk,

ENHANCING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

- Recognizing that natural hazards may become disasters because of, among other factors, the vulnerability of societies, and acknowledging that the sustainable use and management of ecosystems and natural resources such as soil, water and forests are essential for the prevention of disasters,
- Noting the exacerbating effect climate change may have on the frequency and magnitude of disasters, and therefore the importance of climate change mitigation and adaptation to effectively reducing disaster risk,
- Noting the significance of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, and encouraging the participating States to actively engage in the preparations for the third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) aiming at adopting the post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai in 2015,
- Noting the importance of the ongoing global negotiations on climate change in the context of the UNFCCC, aiming at adopting a protocol, another legal instrument, or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable

- Encourages the participating States to develop, co-ordinate and implement, where appropriate, disaster risk reduction measures with climate change adaptation and mitigation plans at all appropriate levels;
- Tasks the OSCE executive structures, in particular the OCEEA, within their available resources and mandates, to strengthen the exchange of knowledge and experience, building upon the OSCE's good practices in disaster risk reduction gained particularly in the field of water management, flood risk management, and fire management;

UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes



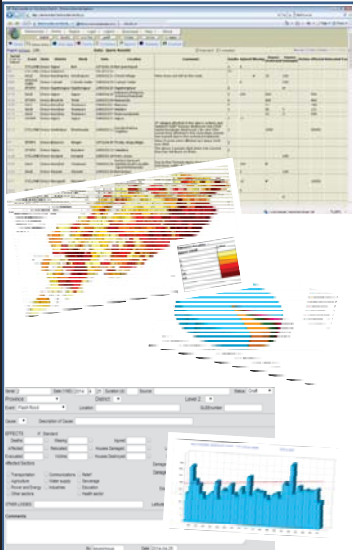
- Strengthens transboundary water cooperation and measures for the ecologically-sound management and protection of transboundary surface waters and groundwater. The Convention fosters the implementation of integrated water resources management, in particular the basin approach
- Requires Parties to prevent, control and reduce transboundary impact, use transboundary waters in a reasonable and equitable way and ensure their sustainable management.
- Requires parties bordering the same transboundary waters have to cooperate by entering into specific agreements and establishing joint bodies
- Water Convention was amended to allow accession by countries outside the UNECE region, entered into force on 6 February 2013, turning the Water Convention into a legal framework for transboundary water cooperation worldwide

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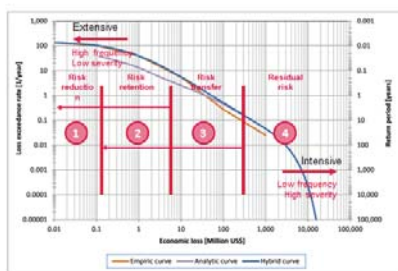
Disaster Loss Accounting and Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment to support DRR strategies evidence based

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Guidelines on Risk Assessment



- Risk reduction**
Conduct Building retrofitting, mitigation strategies
- Risk retention**
Insurance, Financial markets, public treatment laws and regulations
- Risk transfer**
Contingency insurance, contingency funds
- Residual risk**
The risk we will have to live with



Methodology already implemented in 87 countries and territories including Belarus, Serbia and Kosovo (Under UNSCR1244/99)


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Promoting investments on DRR

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100 years urban growth in the city of Genova


- Plan new urban/industrial setting along with related CCA & DRR measures
- Adopt appropriate building codes for the specific area
- Protect your private/governmental strategic investments with insurance and reinsurance mechanisms



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Sea water level rising in the Venice lagoon

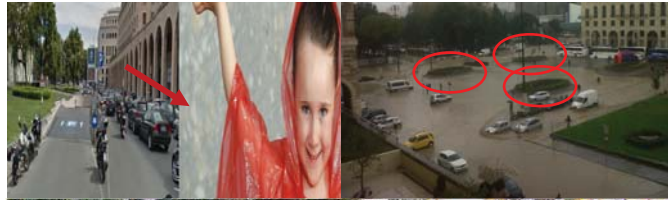




Practical Guidelines on integration of DRR in CCA

(To be completed and published by December 2015)

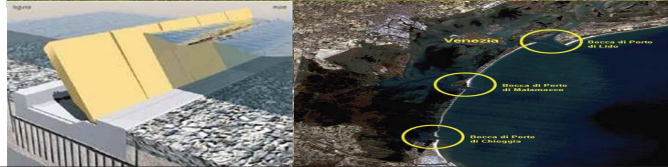
Bumps at the entrances
of the underground
parking lot and elevated
air openings
(Genova, Italy)



Infiltration dams inside
levee, to handle storm
water runoff
(Karlstad, Sweden).



Protection against sea
water rising level in the
Venice lagoon
(Venice, Italy).



Final Remarks

Sustainable development cannot be achieved unless disaster risk is reduced and appropriate life conditions, also in terms of security as well as financial and economic capacity, are ensured for everybody. OSCE: to play as political/policy entity share concepts and ensure that remains part of the agenda at the international level [Strengthening disaster risk governance PR 2]

Disasters are most often caused by unappropriated land use management and unappropriated building codes, rather than to natural events. OSCE [share practises and focus on transboundoury examples [Policy of risks PR 2]

Comprehensive and inclusive approach towards Disaster Risk Reduction is the key to success. Appropriate land use planning, adoption of appropriate building codes, raising of risk awareness, active participation of public and private stakeholders at national and local level are preliminary conditions to achieve DRR. OSCE: promotion of investments in DRR and enhanced Governance (corruption, accountability) [PR 3 Investing in DRR and PR 2]

The Sendai Framework for DRR set the strategy for next 15 years toward comprehensive and coherent DRR strategy, shifting the focus from what to do to how to do, identifying roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders and providing practical tools and guidelines.[OSCE contribute to guideline developments and indicators]

The Regional Office for Europe will keep supporting countries in European Region to develop and implement strategy aligned with Sendai Framework.

You can and you must play a relevant role in planning and implementing the way forward for the strategy



Thank you



www.unisdr.org
www.preventionweb.net
www.wcdrr.org

