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**Accompanying document to the
EU STRATEGY FOR SUPPORTING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

ANNEXES

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ANNEX I

What is disaster risk reduction?

According to the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)¹, disaster risk reduction is: ‘Actions taken to reduce the risk of disasters and the adverse impacts of natural hazards, through systematic efforts to analyse and manage the causes of disasters, including through avoidance of hazards, reduced social and economic vulnerability to hazards, and improved preparedness for adverse events’.

In operational terms, disaster risk reduction comprises preparedness, mitigation and prevention, bearing in mind that many actions include a mix of mitigation and prevention. The descriptions below are meant to be illustrative, not exhaustive.

- Preparedness aims to boost the resilience and coping capacity of vulnerable people to better face hazards. It is based on sound analysis of disaster risks and linked to early warning systems. It includes contingency planning, stockpiling of equipment and supplies, emergency services and standby arrangements, communications, information management and coordination arrangements, personnel training, community drills and exercises, and public education. It must be supported by formal institutional, legal and budgetary capacity.
- Mitigation aims to limit the adverse impact of various hazards and includes structural measures such as engineering techniques and hazard-resistant construction, and non-structural measures such as improved policies, legislation, public awareness, training and education, public commitment and operating practices. There is a window of opportunity for strengthened mitigation in the recovery and transition process, for example through ‘building back better’.²
- Prevention aims to avoid the adverse impact of hazards outright and to minimise related disasters. Depending on social and technical feasibility and cost/benefit considerations, investing in preventive measures may be justified in areas frequently affected by disasters. These may include structural measures such as engineering and physical protection (e.g. dams, flood barriers, building of refuges), or non-structural, legislative measures on land use and building codes. Public awareness and education can be used to promote a ‘culture of prevention’ and to encourage local prevention activities.

Another concept that is central to disaster risk reduction is that of resilience. Disaster risk reduction aims to increase resilience in disaster-prone countries and societies, with a focus on long-term capacity- and institution-building rather than just post-event crisis management.

Finally, underpinning all the above concepts are the acquisition and development of insight into risk factors and capacity building and the use of essential information and communication technology (ICT) and earth observation (EO) tools. For example, EO can help in predicting

¹ The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), launched in 2000, is the key coordinator for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

² Mitigation in the disaster risk reduction sense should not be confused with mitigation in the climate change sense, which refers to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions that are the source of climate change.

when and where disaster will strike, while ICTs can warn the population to seek shelter. After a disaster, ICTs are life-saving tools for emergency services.

ANNEX II

EU Member State and Commission current and planned action on DRR³

The majority of EU Member States (17) and the Commission support DRR efforts in developing countries on a regular basis using development or humanitarian aid budgets or both. One other Member State funds DRR activities on an ad hoc basis when funding, which comes from its humanitarian aid budget, is available and can be spent without compromising the funding of core activities.

Such support includes bilateral support to developing countries at country and regional levels and multilateral support channelled, for example, through the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) system to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction (GFDRR) and the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR).

Moreover, many Member States and the Commission are currently in the process of stepping up support for DRR in various ways, including through:

- *Policy/strategy development and institutional approaches*: the United Kingdom adopted a specific DRR policy in 2006. Three Member States and the Commission are currently working on DRR policy/strategy development, inter-ministerial cooperation, working papers and DRR guidelines.
- *Enhanced bilateral support for DRR at country, regional, and inter-regional levels*: four Member States and the Commission are stepping up support both by means of projects/programmes and improved mainstreaming. For example, with regard to the Commission, €180 million has been proposed for DRR in the EDF-10 Intra-ACP envelope compared with €12 million under EDF-9. Funding for the Dipecho and the Greater Horn of Africa programmes has also gone up, from €19.5 million in 2007 to €60.3 million in 2008. DRR programmes are planned for the Pacific (€9 million), Bangladesh (€13 million) and the Maldives.
- *Enhanced multilateral support for DRR*: four Member States are stepping up support for the UN/ISDR system and the GFDRR.
- *Taking on quantitative commitments*: The United Kingdom (10%), Germany (10%) and Luxembourg (5%) have committed themselves to dedicating a certain percentage of their budgets for disaster response to DRR.

Examples of recent Commission-funded DRR programmes and projects

Africa, Caribbean and Pacific: €12 million from the 9th EDF for the first phase of the ACP-EU Natural Disaster Facility for regional capacity building in disaster risk reduction in the six ACP regions. Another €180 million has been proposed for DRR in the EDF-10 Intra-ACP envelope, essentially for the ACP-EU Natural Disaster Facility.

Africa, Caribbean and Pacific: €25 million is being used for the Global Index Insurance Facility (GIIF), a multi-donor trust fund at the World Bank Group. The GIIF became

³ Commission Staff Working Paper, Progress Report on Monterrey Commitments, 9 April 2008.

operational in 2008 and aims to reduce the vulnerability of ACP populations to external shocks / natural disasters by expanding the use of index insurance as a risk management tool.

Caribbean: €13.3 million in support of a Caribbean weather radar network warning system. The project, which started in May 2005 and is to be completed by June 2011, will enable the whole Caribbean region to improve its early warning systems and thus its disaster preparedness.

Latin America: €20 million in support of the Central America Program for Vulnerability Reduction and Environmental Management and €10 million in support of disaster prevention and preparedness with the Andean Community.

Bangladesh: €9 million programme in support of earthquake and tsunami preparedness, in the context of the national Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme.

Indonesia: €200 million in support of reconstruction (part of the Tsunami Indicative Programme 2005-2006), including DRR elements.

Venezuela: €5 million in support of disaster prevention and reconstruction.

Dipecho programme: Created in 1998, the Dipecho programme is now running in six disaster-prone regions: the Caribbean, Central America, South America, Central Asia, South Asia and South-East Asia. The annual budget has increased five-fold, to over €30 million in 2008. The Commission is now expanding the programme to Southern Africa / the Indian Ocean region.

Greater Horn of Africa (GHA): Created in 2006 and with a budget of €30 million for 2008, the Regional Draught decision for the Greater Horn of Africa marks the Commission's new approach to addressing chronic and structural drought-related emergencies with short to medium term perspective. The programme promotes community based knowledge in drought preparedness, local resilience and Early Warning Systems.

Euro-Med programme: The regional "Bridge Programme (2004-2008) on Prevention, Mitigation and Management of Natural and Man-made Disasters", which has helped pave the way for an effective and sustainable Euro-Med system of civil protection and laid the foundations for a Long-Term Programme: "the Euro-Med Programme for the Prevention, Mitigation and Management of Natural and Man-made Disasters - PPRD (2008-2011). The PPRD will contribute to the development of stronger prevention, preparedness and response capacities in civil protection at international, national and local level, in both institutional and operational terms. It will also aim to bring the Mediterranean Partner Countries progressively closer to the European Civil Protection Mechanism (MIC).

The Commission also supports DRR under the Global Climate Change Alliance for which €60 million has been allocated, and which has identified DRR as one of its strategic priorities.

A great deal of hazard and disaster-related research is conducted under the 7th Framework Programme for research, in particular the Environment programme which has a sub-activity devoted to natural hazards. The core areas are related to hazard assessment, vulnerability, risk and multi-risk management, and mitigation.

The Commission's Joint Research Centre supports the GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security), the European Drought Observatory and the Global Early Warning System for Desertification, and CriTech (Crisis Monitoring and Response Technologies).