Expert Consultation on Sustainable Disaster Databases for South and Southeast Asia

Hotel Plaza Athénée - A Royal Méridien –
61 Wireless Road (Witthayu) - Atheneum 4-5 (6th floor)
Bangkok, December 11-13, 2012

Agenda

DAY 1: Tuesday December 11th

Chair: Dr Guha Sapir D., Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, Belgium

14:30 - 15:15 Introduction and Roundtable

Welcome and opening
Mr Dani S., World Bank Regional Office, India
Mr Ernst M., United States Agency for International Development/ Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance, USA
Dr Guha-Sapir D., Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, Belgium

15:15 – 15:30 Coffee and Tea Break

15:30 - 17:30

Global disaster databases of research and private institutions: how can we do better?

This session will provide a brief overview of the current data situation at a global level; limits and challenges faced by global disaster databases will be discussed, gaps identified. Experiences from the Asian region will be shared to identify strengths and weaknesses of global databases that are relevant for similar initiatives at national level.

Ms Below R., Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, Belgium
Dr Ehrlich D., Joint Research Centre, Institute for the Security of the citizens, Italy
Discussant
Dr Golnaraghi M., World Meteorological Organisation, Switzerland

Ms Bevere L., Swiss Re, Switzerland
Discussant
Mr Marinos L., United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Thailand

18:00 Welcome reception
DAY 2: Wednesday December 12th

Morning Chair: Dr Thomas V., Asian Development Bank

09:00 - 10:45

National databases: current initiatives and their challenges

This session will focus on national and sub-national disaster data collection initiatives. Countries will be invited to share their experiences, expectations and challenges. What works and what does not work will be discussed, as well as issues related to availability of resources and to continuity.

Mr Bui Quang Huy, Disaster Management Centre, Vietnam
Mr Yunus R., United Nations Development Programme, Indonesia
Mr Ollet E.J., National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, Philippines
Mr Panhara O., Deputy Director General of National Institute of Statistics, Royal Govt. of Cambodia

Discussants
Dr Gunawan I., World Bank, Indonesia

10:45 - 11:00 Coffee and Tea Break

11:00 - 12:30

Quality, accuracy and reliability of data: What are the options for harmonization and inter-operability?

Participants will be invited to discuss the technical and methodological challenges in managing disaster databases and how to make the initiatives compatible and inter-operable. One of the major challenges in the field of disaster data is to overcome the limitations induced by the lack of clear standards and definitions which leads to inconsistent reliability and poor inter-operability of the different disasters data compilation initiatives.

Mr Ho B., Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, Thailand
Mr Adhityawarma J., Asean Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management, Indonesia
Dr Ansary M.A., University of Engineering and Technology, Bangladesh
Mr Matsuur a S., Asian University Network of Environment and Disaster Risk Management, Japan

Discussants
Mr Ollet E.J., National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, Philippines

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch Break
Afternoon Chair: Ms Davis-Stewart R., USAID/OFDA

14:00 - 15:30

Measuring economic and financial impacts: why and how?

Economic loss estimations have been notoriously difficult to undertake both in terms of methodology and in terms of comparability. We expect in this session to discuss the progress made by PDNA, insurance methods and other options that are available. Barriers to collecting financial and economic loss data will be debated some realistic options indicated.

Ms Löw P., Munich Re, Germany
Mr Ratanavong N., United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Thailand
Dr Gunawan L., World Bank, Indonesia

Discussant
Ms Bevere L., Swiss Re, Switzerland

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee and Tea Break

15:45 - 17:15

Social and human impact: targeting DRM programmes towards the people?

Disaster risk management and reduction needs to be understood better in terms of its human impact. Ways in which disasters pose a threat to communities provide insights that can help target DRM programmes towards concrete goals. The assessment of risk is associated to specific factors and data can help quantify these associations. Human impact data can also point to risks that are typically not assessed such as age-sex differentiated mortality, severe nutritional stress, disease outbreaks, rural-urban migration or educational gaps. This session will discuss such issues and debate the potential of monitoring such phenomena.

Dr Baba H., Japan International Cooperation Agency, Japan
Dr Thaitakoo D., Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
Mr Verboom D., European Commission for Humanitarian Aid Directorate-General, Thailand

Discussant
Dr Liu M., Asian Development Bank Institute, Japan

19:00 Conference Dinner Cruise
Day 3: Thursday December 13th

Chair: Mr Ernst M., United States Agency for International Development/ Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance, USA

09:30 - 11:00

Prospects for international collaboration: coming together to a better preparedness

Global databases on disasters have their limits in terms of their scope and resolution and these have been discussed in an earlier session. To achieve progress in preparedness and prevention, regional collaborations and national strengthening of data systems should be priority. This session is dedicated to explore possible collaboration for the creation of a consortium to sustainably strengthen the availability and technical quality of disaster data in the Asian region.

Dr Guha-Sapir D., Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, Belgium
Dr Thomas V., Asian Development Bank, Philippines
Dr Priabadi K. S., Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia
Dr So E., Cambridge University, UK

11:00-11:30 Coffee and Tea Break

11:30 – 12:00

Wrap up and conclusions – Closing of plenary meeting

Mr Dani S., World Bank Regional Office, India
Mr Ernst M., United States Agency for International Development/ Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance, USAID
Dr Guha-Sapir D., Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, Belgium

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 15:30

Discussion on commitments and future work plans

Closed meeting with invited partners to discuss work plan of EM-DAT, joint initiatives, commitments and next steps.