

Regional Training Workshop on DesInventar
Bangkok
6-9 February, 2006 (incl)

- 1.0 **Background:** The UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok has begun implementing the Regional Programme on Capacity Building for Sustainable Recovery and Risk Reduction in Tsunami Affected Countries. The Regional Programme was conceived by the Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery in response to the devastation caused by the 26 December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

The Regional Programme aims to build the capacity of countries affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami in post-disaster recovery and disaster risk reduction. The Programme is implemented in India, Indonesia, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand and has three components: information management; learning and training; and early warning systems. More about the Regional Programme ([link to RP description on RCB website](#)).

2.0 **Regional Training Workshop on DesInventar**

Under the information management component, the Regional Programme is facilitating the process of introducing the concept of systematic disaster inventories using DesInventar methodology and software tools to the affected countries. The Regional Programme is building the capacity of local authorities in the use of this methodology to capture and analyze disaster loss data. Lack of data and information on existing and emerging patterns of disaster risk, is sighted as a major constraint for effective disaster management policy and programming decisions in Asia.

The DesInventar methodology adopts a user friendly and economically viable disaster inventory software to capture both disaster loss data and analyze this data through visual tools like maps and graphs.

The recent earthquakes and tsunami in the Indian Ocean region has created a greater need for the effective use of Disaster Inventories to provide accurate information to formulate effective recovery frameworks and to develop long-term preparedness and mitigation plans. UNDP is working to develop and also to institutionalize a disaster inventories mechanism based on DesInventar to address the needs for accurate information.

3.0 **Goals**

The primary aim of this Project component is to build a databank of disaster loss and damage data at the national level. The secondary aim is to provide support to governments and UN country office in the process of institutionalization of these instruments.

Disaster Inventories based on local assessments could be used to:

- a. Help guide and support the recovery framework of individual countries
- b. Lay the foundation for building, maintaining and institutionalizing disaster loss databases (with historical and prospective database), and analyze tools to facilitate decision-making by key national actors in disaster management and development.

In particular, the project should provide contextualized technical inputs to the national counterparts in the affected countries and help with the following:

- a. Introduce the concept and methodology of DesInventar to the relevant stakeholders in the Government, UN and other relevant actors
- b. Build national capacity for use of the DesInventar interface for disaster loss and occurrence data management

Key activities of the project technical resources will be to:

- a. Generate an initial inventory of disasters that will be the starting point for UN agencies and government institutions to maintain and use these types of data over a long period of time
- b. Contextualize the software to include country maps (making the data presentation geo-referenced to lower administrative levels)
- c. Train a pool of local actors to institutionalize disaster impact databases in the affected countries
- d. Support additional technical needs related to damage and loss assessment data management and analysis.
- e. others as proposed by national counterparts.

4.0 Workshop Participants

Participants from India, Indonesia, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand are expected to participate in the Regional Training Workshop scheduled in Bangkok during 6-9 February 2006. In addition, participants from non-tsunami states of India and East Timor have confirmed to participate in the training workshop.